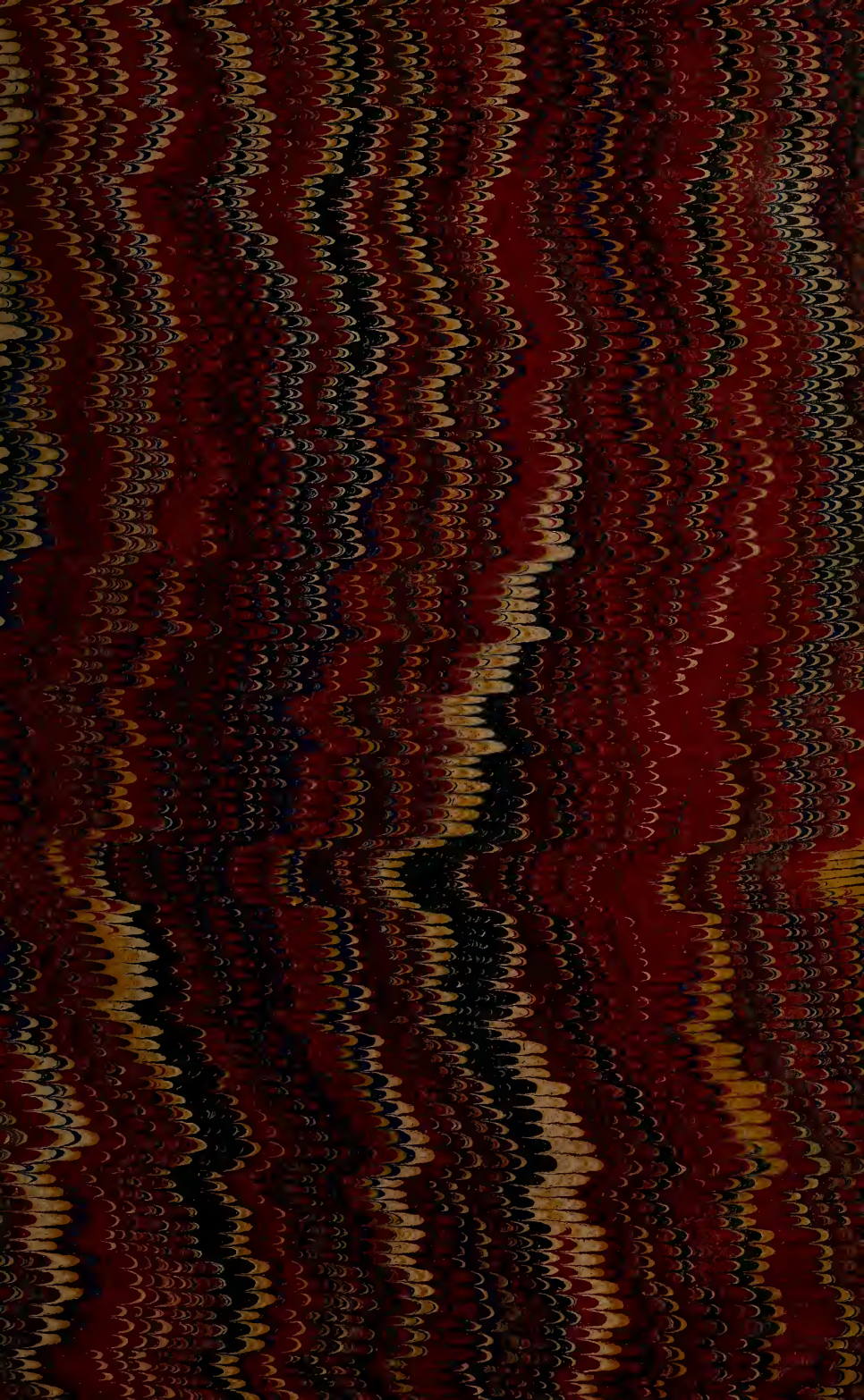


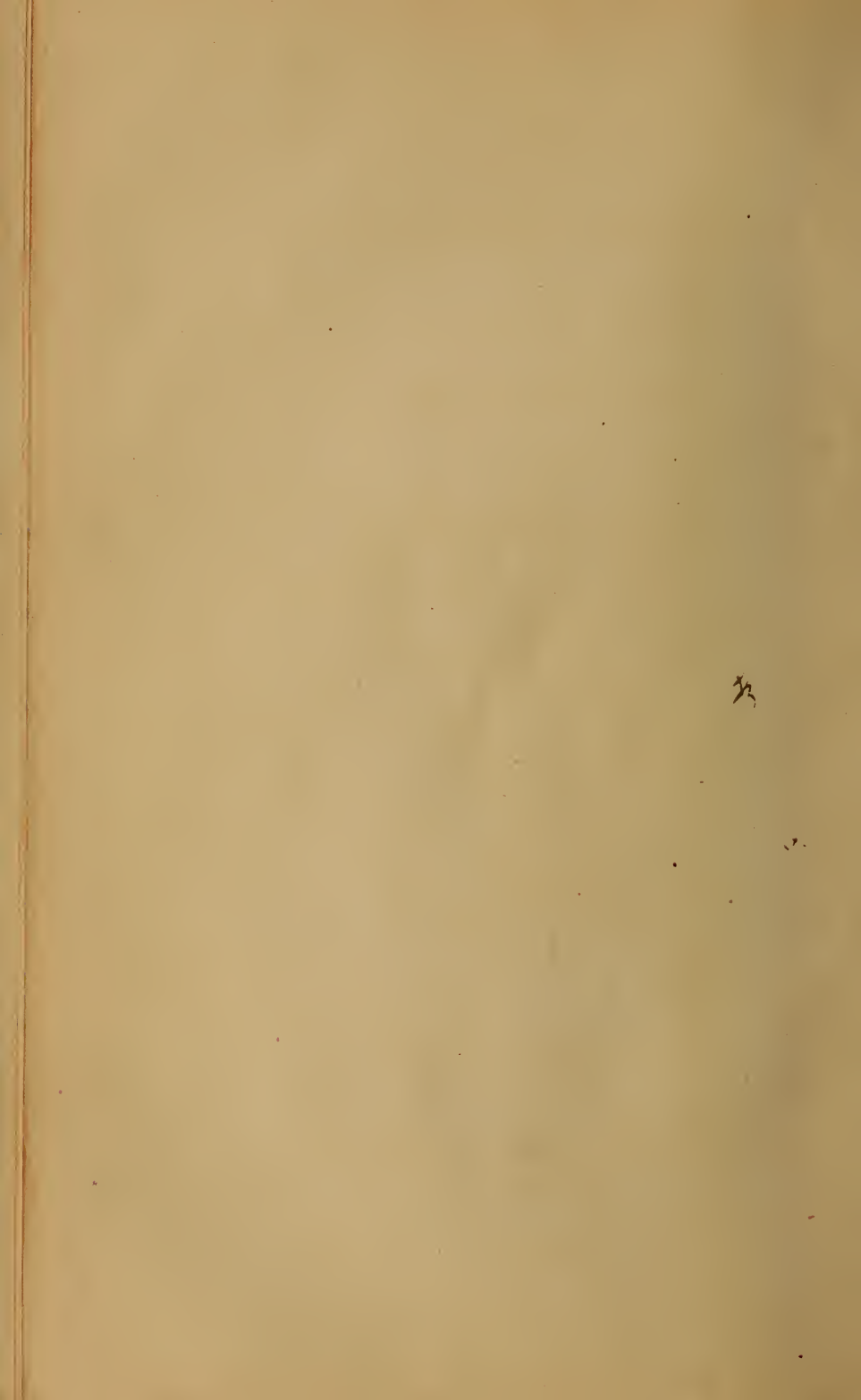
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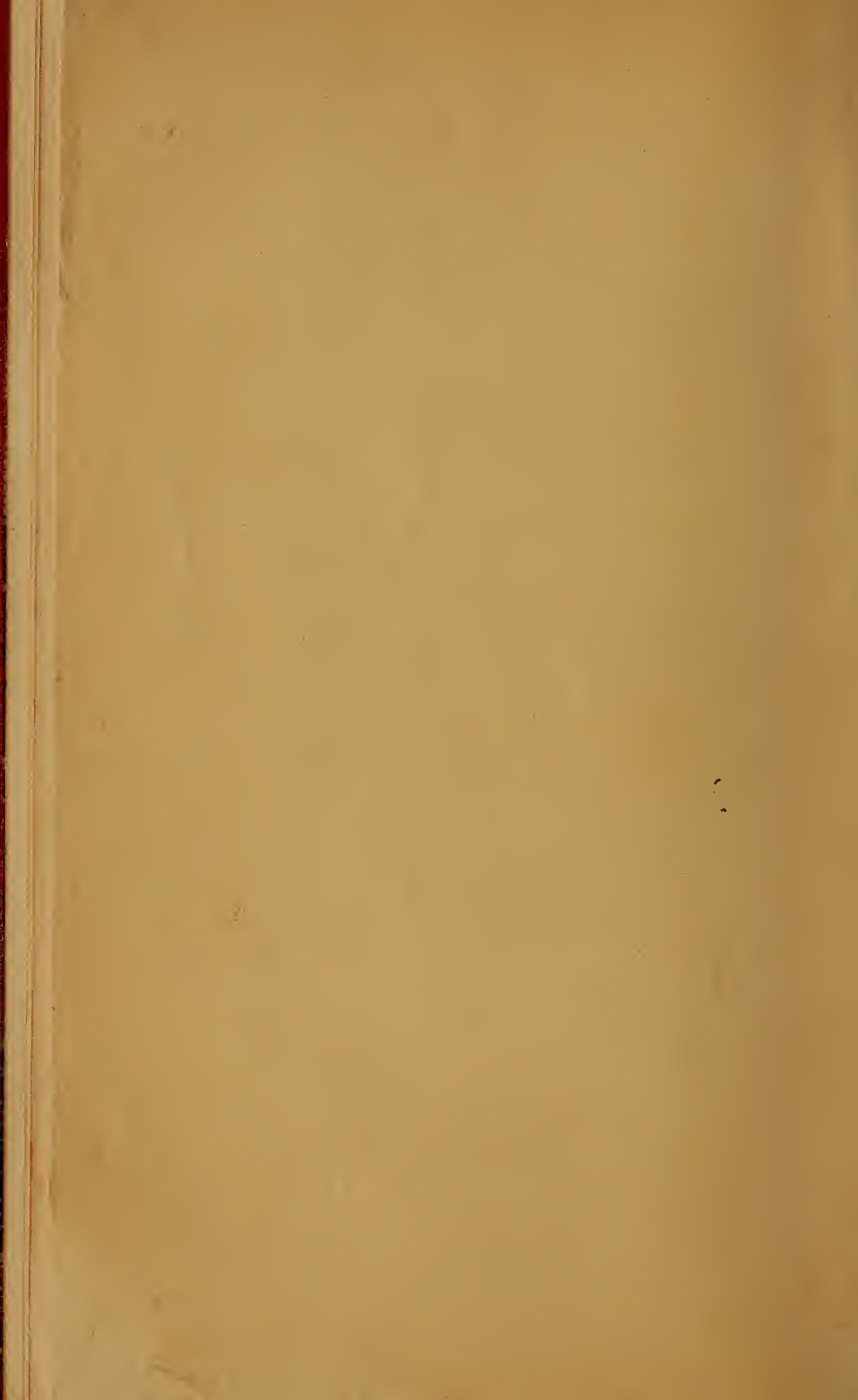
THE
HISTORY OF PORTSMOUTH,

BY
HENRY "SLIGHT, ESQ.



PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR, AND SOLD BY THE
BOOKSELLERS.

1838.



THE
MILITARY HISTORY
OF
PORTSMOUTH.

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HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.



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HISTORY OF PORTSMOUTH.

The Towns of Portsmouth, Portsea, Landport, Southsea, and the suburbs, situate at the south-west point of the island of Portsea, seventy miles from London; form, with the Harbour, and Gosport and its suburbs on the opposite shore, the celebrated sea-port called Portsmouth.

The Town of Portsmouth dates its origin from the reign of Richard the First, whose ministers perceiving the advantageous situation of the land at the mouth of the noble inlet of the sea, and at the bottom of the capacious roadstead or bay, solicited from the King a royal charter for the then small fishing village or town standing on the beach; the monarch concurring in their request, established the royal borough on certain portions of the lands of the island of Portesay which were in the possession of the crown, and retaining in his own power the feudal or territorial rights, incorporated the place under the title of "our borough of Portsmouth," granted to such as were willing to become resident inhabitant householders or Burgesses, certain powers of holding marts and fairs, and exempted them from many secular exactions to which the inhabitants of other places (not being boroughs) were liable.

The King also granted the following, (being a part of the Great Seal of the Monarch), as the

HERALDIC CREST OF THE BOROUGH,

a Crescent of Gold on a Shield of azure, with a blazing star of eight rays of silver between the horns. The shield surmounted by an Escallop shell of Silver, and surrounded by an enrichment of golden scales of fish and triton shells, emblematical of its situation "on the margent of the Silver Sea."

THE COMMON SEAL OF PORTSMOUTH

was probably executed in the reign of Edward the First, and consists of two parts—on the Obverse is a Ship riding on a Stormy Sea, with her anchor at the side. Two figures in the act of rowing occupy the space behind the mast; two others placed on the forecastle are

blowing long trumpets, while two more are busily engaged on the yard unfolding the sail. The mast is supported by strong four-cord rigging, and on the summit is a flag, with three indents ; rigging also passes from the mast to the head and stern of the vessel, and the poop is elevated and square, and appears to contain a figure.— This part passes into the circle which contains the words SIGILLVM * COMMVNE * DE * PORTEMVTHA. The Common Seal of Portsmouth. This portion of the Seal corresponds very nearly to that of Southampton and other sea ports, and is emblematical of the jurisdiction of the Port by the ancient Bailiffs of the Town, to whom the royal mandates were usually addressed relative to naval affairs. The reverse represents a rich gothic shrine, and is altogether of an Ecclesiastical character. The shrine is divided into three pointed arches, surmounted by pinnacles, ornamented with trefoils, crockets and finals : In the centre one, on a pedestal, stands the figure of the Virgin and Child ; in the right hand arch, St. Nicholas, and in the left St. Thomas, both with mitres, episcopally robed, and having in their hands crooked Croziers. The inscription round runs thus : PORTVM : VIRGO : IVVA : NICHOLAE : FOVE : ROGE : THOMA :—"This port O Virgin assist ! O Saint Nicholas cherish ! O Thomas pray for," and these prayers were addressed to the Virgin, in whose honor a Chapel was dedicated in the town, to St. Nicholas, as the especial protector of mariners, to whom was dedicated the hospital of Domus Dei, and to St. Thomas as the Patron of the Town Church. The workmanship of this portion of the seal is of the finest kind, and it was most probably executed by some eminent man.

"The parishes of St. Thomas and St. Mary Colewort, in the town of Portsmouth, are one parish (though anciently two), blended and consolidated, now known by the name, and called the Parish of Portsmouth, cannot now be divided, and therefore the whole must be deemed and considered as one."

Boundaries of the Parish of Portsmouth commences at low-water mark, one hundred paces to the south-east of the Hot-walls (King's Ravelin) ; proceed in a northerly direction into the large moat, cross the little moat close to the right-hand wall of the large moat till the small spur leading to Landport-bridge is reached ; cross the moat again, proceed along the outer wall to Landport-bridge ; then along the moat, close to the outer wall, to nearly opposite the angle formed by the line from Quay (now King George's) gate, cross the road (by permission) to the King's-mill, keep close to the Mill ; follow that line to the Bastion, at Mill-gate ; mount the Bastion, descend on the oppo-

site side close to the Portcullis, thence in a direct line (intersecting obliquely the foot bridge and water) to the centre of the Gun-wharf large gates, thence in a direct line to the Store-keeper's house, halfway through this house, up three steps to the left ; proceed in that line ; descend three steps to the right, follow the course of the entry to the garden fence, thence to a pear-tree in the First Clerk's garden, thence to a small chimney in the superintendant's laundry (late Spencer's), thence to the angle of the wall, touching the Common Hard, thence along the Harbour line, and cross over to the Point from the nearest angle. Secondly, from the left hand of Spring-street, or on an angle to No. 7, to Martyr-yard, in Fountain-street, then in a line intersecting the chimneys of the double line of houses, straight on by the late Marine Infirmary, including the water-course, to the weigh-bridge, and from the corner of Halfway Houses to the corner of the Weigh-bridge-house, including the waste land formed by the angle."

The principal streets in Portsmouth, which are handsome, well-built, and neatly paved, run in parallel lines, and are intersected by others of less note at right angles. The High-street divides the town into two equal parts. In it are the principal inns, libraries, shops, and banks. On the north side are St. Thomas, Crown, Warblington, Prospect, and King streets : Penny-street is towards the south ; in it are the gaol, some large barracks, and various mercantile establishments ; and beyond is St. Nicholas-street, containing barracks for soldiers. St. Mary's-street is the principal cross street, and the great thoroughfare to Portsea. In a line with it are White Horse street and Barrack-street (formerly Peacock-lane). A second range of cross streets is towards the centre of the town, and the principal carriage-road to Portsea ; viz. Lombard-street, Red Lion-lane, Pembroke-street (formerly Fighting-cock-lane, and more anciently Genmell-street,) and Green-row, which last is the principal road to Southsea through King William's Gate. A third cross street, called Oyster-street, passes from the Quay-gate to the Grand Parade, a large square space, which communicates with the Ramparts, and is used as a military Parade Ground ; beyond this is a Paddock, formerly the lawn of the Government House, and more anciently the close of the HOSPITAL OF DOMUS DEI. The space commonly called *the Point* extends from the lower end of High-street (where it passes King James's-gate), and in a line with it through Broad-street down to the water's edge, forming an island suburb, surrounded by a lake or camber : it is broad and well paved, containing many very extensive mercantile establishments, shops, inns, &c. On one side is an open space called Bath-square, and several streets, viz. East,

West, Tower, and St. James-streets, branch off in opposite directions. About seventy years ago there were a number of small houses in the centre of Broad-street, called Fisherman's-row, about one hundred and fifty feet in length, and situated nearly opposite to what is now the Blue Post hotel. A stake with a large iron ring was placed in the ground at one end of this row, at which it was customary on every Shrove Tuesday to bait a bull.

1809—June 24th, on the beach at this part of the town, a dreadful explosion took place, attended with most serious consequences.—The 2d battalion of the 8th regiment, having disembarked from foreign service, left for several days their baggage and ammunition on the shore : about eleven o'clock A. M. an old woman, who had been sitting for some time on one of the casks of gunpowder smoking her pipe, incautiously emptied it among the baggage, when one of the barrels immediately exploded. The effects were dreadful—more than thirty men, women and children, were literally blown to atoms ; their bodies presented the most awful spectacle, and limbs and heads were strewed in all directions, and several taken from the very tops of the adjoining houses. Some idea may be formed of the explosion, by one poor fellow being thrown over a considerable extent of building into an adjoining street, the figure of whose mangled body we saw impressed on the front of the house against which it fell ; and a thigh of another ~~was~~ found a considerable distance up the Broad-street, whilst scarcely a single pane of window for near half the length of the street remained unbroken, and a great part of the store-rooms adjoining were completely destroyed. The barrel that exploded stood in a tier with sixteen others, which were expected every moment to blow up : a company of soldiers with a few resolute sailors at their head, aided by the inhabitants, removed the remaining barrels and prevented destruction to the greater part of the town. The very woman who was the cause of the explosion, strange to say, remained unhurt !

On the beach stand the wharves and stores of Mr. Lindegren, agent for the India Company ; and the Star and Garter and Quebec taverns ; about the centre of Broad-street is the Baltic Wharf, erected by Messrs. BurrIDGE, and over it a lofty square tower ; the well-known London waggon and coach-offices are behind the Blue Posts inn ; and in Bath square and Broad-street are the various establishments connected with the shipping interests, *viz.* the offices of the several consulates, agents, water-companies, the Bethel Chapel and School, the Watch-house, Steam-packet offices, Coal-exchanges, the offices of the American Packets, (formerly the Custom House) and many others.

At the lower end of Broad-street is the ferry from Portsmouth to Gosport, regulated by act of parliament, proper fares according to the state of the weather being affixed. It is better to take a boat at a trifling expense, and thus avoid trouble, importunity and delay : the boats are excellent and the seamen very expert ; they are to be obtained here and at the Portsea Hard for all places within the harbour, and at the Sally Port, for Spithead, Isle of Wight, &c. Packets, steam-vessels, &c. are also constantly sailing for the different ports in the neighbourhood, information respecting which can be obtained at the different offices and at the hotels. The fare for each person from Portsmouth or Portsea to Gosport is one penny, or in foul weather twopence, which is shown by a blue flag hoisted on Gosport market-house. A single wherry sixpence, in foul weather one shilling.

1754—the inhabitants erected in Bath-square, Broad-street, (to which it gives name) a Bathing-house, containing four baths, dressing-rooms, &c. It is close to the Quebec hotel, plentifully supplied with water, and, though small, is a convenient and comfortable place.

A landing place or pier has been erected near the Custom House Watch house (1837). The capabilities of this part of the town are very great for mercantile speculators. It is surrounded by the sea, has within its grasp as it were, a fine Basin, and by a judicious erection of Wharves and Docks, might be rendered a most valuable appendage to the Town and Port. Proposals have been often made for converting the Camber into Docks ; we trust the time is not far distant when such a plan may be carried into execution. It has undergone a survey, and plans have been published by Mr. Owen, of the High Street, Portsmouth, and Mr. Livesay of Portsea.

MILITARY HISTORY, FORTIFICATIONS, CASTLES, BARRACKS, &c.

The earliest record of the Fortification of Portsmouth is found in one of the Patent rolls of the Thirteenth year of Edward the Third, where occurs an order or Royal mandate for enclosing with walls [claudend] paving with stone and improving our Town of Portsmouth.

King Richard the Third made William Uvedale, Knight, Keeper of Portsmouth, Supervisor and Governor at the King's pleasure, and afterwards the same King appointed William Mirfelde to the like office, together with the custody of Portchester. These appointments may be found in the Harleian Library, No. 433 : 121.

PORTSMOUTH IN 1546.

"There is at this point of the haven Portsmouth Town and a great round Tower almost double in quantity and strength to that that is on the West side of the haven right again it : and here is a mighty chain of iron to draw from tower to tower."

"The town of Portesmoth is muried from the est tour a forough length withe a mudde waulle armed with tymbre, whereon be great peaces both of yron and brassen ordinances, and this peace of waulle having a dicke without it, runnith so far flat south-south-east, and is the place moste apte to defende the toun there open to the hauen : ther runnith a dicke almost flat est for a space, and wythin it is a waulle of mudde like to the other, and so there goeth rounde aboute the toun to the circuite of a myle : there is a gate of tymbre at the north est of the toun, and bye it is cast up an hille of erth ditched, whereon be gunnes to defend the entre into the toun by land. I learned in the toun that the tourres in the hauen mouth were begun in King Edward iv. tyme, and set forwarde yn building by Richard iij. ; King Henrie viij. ended them at the procuracion of Fox, Bishop of Winchester. King Henry the vij. of late tyme sette in Portesmoth capitaines and certen soldiours in garrison."*

1551, May 20, Sir Richard Wingfield, Rogers and ——— were appointed to view the state of Portsmouth and to bring again their opinions concerning fortifying thereof.

FROM KING EDWARD'S JOURNAL.

August 8th, Removing to Portesmoth : 9th, in the morning I went to Chateris bulwark and viewed also the town ; in the afternoon went to see the storehouse, and then took a boat and went to the wooden tower and so to Hazleford ; upon viewing of which things ill, it then was devised two forts to be made upon the entry of the Haven—one where Ridley's tower standeth upon the north which maketh the Camber. The other upon a little neck standing on the other side the haven where stood an old Bulwark of wood. This was devised for the strength of the haven. It was meant that that to the town side should be both stronger and larger ; 10th, Henry Dudley lay at Portsmouth with a warlike company of 140 good soldiers. The tower here mentioned is the Round or

"KING EDWARD'S TOWER,"

at the entrance, which has been of late years considerably enlarged and raised. The line of covered batteries extending from it was

* From Leland's Itinerary, Vol. 3, Page 112—Edition 1796.

erected by James the Second, whose initials and crown still appear on almost every key-stone, with the date. The ancient Sally-port with its small turret has been demolished, and the passage considerably enlarged and improved. In front of this line of fortification lay buried in the shingle the enormous chains used to defend the entrance of the port. A part may still be seen on Block-house beach. In the American disturbance, the capstans were repaired behind the round tower, and on the opposite shore, and the chains were raised and tightened at the time a French fleet was hovering off Plymouth. From an old engraving it appears there was a considerable embankment on the sea-side of the tower, about one hundred years since. A low wall passes across the camber moat, (enclosing a covered way and staircase) to the ancient batteries on each side the lower gateway, which contain covered chambers, the windows of which have been closed up : above are platforms to which broad flights of stone steps lead on each side.

GOVERNOR GIBSON.

“The people of Portsmouth tell strange stories of the severity of one Gibson who was governor of this place in the Queen’s time, to his soldiers, and show you a miserable dungeon near the town-gate, which they call ‘Johnny Gibson’s Hole,’ where for trifling misdemeanors he used to confine his soldiers till they were almost starved to death.”

On the death of Anne, John Carter (the grandfather of the late John Carter) being in the Royal Exchange, was a spectator of the ceremony of the proclamation of George the First. Having finished his business, he immediately set off for Portsmouth on foot. On his arrival here, on August the 3rd, he promulgated the news. Parties at that time ran high, and many expressed hopes that the House of Brunswick would not succeed to the dominions of these realms. Among the most zealous of the Jacobites here was Gibson, the Governor, who threatened Mr. Carter with imprisonment for what he termed a false and seditious report.*

KING JAMES’S GATE,

is a structure in the Venetian stile, with double Corinthian pilasters on each side the archway, an entablature supporting a circular tower, and ball, and ornamental spires on each side. The inscription is IACOBVS : SECVNDVS : A : R : III : AN : DOM : 1687. On

* From a brief memoir of the late Dr. Bayley of Chichester, who was related to the Carter family.

the key-stone are the initials I R, surmounted by an imperial crown, with the date 1687, and below the Ordnance arms, three cannon on a shield. A heavy drawbridge is in front.

About fifty years since, during a tempest, the marble ball fell from the summit of the tower of the gate, and split into fragments at the feet of two ladies who were passing at the time. The gateway remained in a very dilapidated state till 1826, when being under repair, the inscription, which was nearly obliterated, was restored. On June 29th the repairs were completed, and the present immense marble ball placed on the summit. A lofty stone wall, through which is the opening called the New Sallyport or King's Stairs, reaches to the

ANCIENT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Before the dissolution of the Priory of God's House, this square building was the residence of the Governor; at a later period it was converted into a powder-magazine for the garrison, and used as such for many years. It was probably erected in the reign of Edward III. or Richard the III. as it appears delineated in Holbein's picture of the Wars of Henry VIII. In 1623-4, the inhabitants erected, in a circular niche on the centre of the northern front, a

BRASS BUST OF CHARLES THE FIRST,

richly gilt, encircled by a wreath of laurel and oak; and in basso relievo below, the royal arms. The small slab above the bust, with the name, seems of modern date. The following inscription was on a square stone: "King CHARLES THE FIRST: after his travels through France and Spain, and having passed many dangers both by sea and land, he arrived here the 4th day of October, 1623: there was the greatest applause of joy for his safety throughout the kingdom that ever was known or heard of." The statue was regilt in 1814.

"Our most nobell Prince Charles arrived at Portsmouth the fifth of October, from Spaine, 1623, being Sondaye at 9 o'clock in the morning."*

"OFF WITH YOUR HATS" !!! OR REVERENCE TO ROYAL STATUES.

General the Lord Viscount Wimbleton to the Mayor of Portsmouth. Mr. Mayor and the rest of your Brethren—

"Whereas at my last being at Portsmouth I did recommend the beautifying of your streets by setting in the signs of your inns to the

* From the fly-leaf of an old copy of "Elyot's Governor;" written by an eye-witness named Lilly.

houses, as they are in all civilized towns, so now I must recommend it to you most earnestly in regard of his Majestie's figure or statue, that it hath pleased his Majestie to honor your Town with more than any others: so that these signs of your Inns do not only obscure his Majestie's figure, but outface it, as you yourselves may well perceive. Therefore I desire you all, that you will see that such an inconvenience be not suffered; but that you will cause against the next spring, that it be redressed, for that any disgrace offered his Majestie's figure is as much as to himself. To which end I will and command all the officers and soldiers not to pass it by without putting off their hats.

I hope I shall need use no other authority to make you do it; for that it concerneth your obedience to have it done, especially now you are told of it by myself. Therefore I will say no more but wish health to you all, and so rest your assured loving friend,

WIMBLEDON.*

Oct. 22, 1635.

To the west of the Government House was a few years ago a part of the Victualling Department, of which the following is the account:

July 9, 1713. Lieut.-Colonel Archer represented to the Board of Ordnance, that certain stores, intended to be built on the Quay, would be in front of one of the batteries of the Garrison. Jonas Hanway, Esq. came to Portsmouth, to ascertain the expense of converting the old Magazine into a store, and the Ordnance gave consent that the Commissioners of the Victualling-board should take possession of it, instead of building stores on the Quay: which they did on July 10, 1779, making the necessary alterations, and erecting an new slaughter-house on a piece of waste-ground adjoining, from the design of Mr. Thomas Hoskins, at an expense of 1382*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* This was removed a few years ago.

The Board of Admiralty erected, in 1823, above the roof of the Magazine, a Semaphore for transmission of signals, which is effected between this and London in three minutes. It is of wood, framed and bolted, and contains several apartments, and a variety of beautiful mechanism. The entrance is on the Platform, and carried by an archway over the roof; from the square, at the summit, rises the mechanism of the Semaphore and a flag-staff. But few traces of the original appropriation of this old Government-house can now be discovered. Previous to the repairs, (1827) traces of four windows could be discerned on the sea-side, and a species of loop-hole in the

centre; three on the north side, and traces of several near the ground, which afforded light to vaults. There are indications of four large windows on the east, and one towards the west. Within on the ground-floor, is an old-fashioned stone doorway (with iron hinges for a door,) leading to a passage now closed up; and a second appears at the eastern extremity. On the next floor are only the brick arches of the Magazine. The external walls are eight feet thick, and on the western side seventeen. The building having been lined with brickwork, no clue to the internal arrangement of the apartments can be traced. A doorway opens through the sea-wall to a wooden wharf, called the Beef Stage, which projects into the sea, to enable vessels to approach for supplies of fresh provision. It is by the staircase near this wharf, that persons of rank generally enter the Garrison. During the visit of the Lord High Admiral, the Semaphore was magnificently illuminated. The sea-wall is now entirely restored and strengthened.

Several portions of the Fortification were originally erected from the proceeds of a Lottery for Plate which was drawn in 1569, by order of Elizabeth at the West-end of St. Paul's Cathedral.

In October, 1586, the Privy Council gave warrant to Stephen Bull, Master-Gunner, to take note of all such Ordnance as was needful to be supplied to the Town of Portsmouth and the *New Fortifications* there, and what number of Gunners the same would require. (This account is in the Harleian Library—(368-54.) At this period Richard Popinjaye was Surveyor of the works.

In 1587 an abstract of the charge of the New Works was returned to the Council, and letters were addressed to the Lord Treasurer. (These are also in the Harleian Library No. 6845-23.) In 1623, an extensive survey was made by the officers of the Ordnance, of the works, and barracks and other remarkables, importing the King's service in Southsea Castle and Portsmouth. (Harl : Lib : 1326.)

1665.—Sir Philip Honeywood, Governor. He planted the Trees on the Walls of Portsmouth.

Between the Government House and the Sally-port is the Military Prison, and the Residence of one of the Gunners.

Next appears the Platform Battery, which commands a magnificent sea view. Here is a sun-dial: and a few years since a Semaphore stood in the centre. A Signal-house on this bastion was erected in the reign of Elizabeth, as appeared from the date, 1569, in a nook at the extremity. Adjoining was the state chamber, over the door of which was a marble slab, bearing this inscription: "CAROLVS : II : AN : REG : XXXIIII : A : D : 1682." It was used

for courts-martial ; but sold by auction Dec. 5, 1827, and demolished. At a short distance anciently stood a semicircular tower, from the foot of which to the situation of the Hot-wall Bastion was an arm of the sea, reaching to the Governor's green, and communicating with the moats, which were thus filled at every tide : by the erection of the new works, the extension of the Platform, &c. in 1733, it has been enclosed, and the sea is now admitted by a sluice. This battery mounts twenty-one pieces of cannon, used for salutes ; and at one extremity were four remarkable cannon of tremendous calibre ; and on the King's Bastion (being the next towards the East) many others of the same proportions. They were taken in L'Impetuex in Lord Howe's victory of the 1st. of June, 1794, and were much admired. They are now removed. On the latter battery are many large bombs ; and beneath is a vast Magazine. The Garrison flag is displayed on this part of the works ; and a cannon is daily fired at the rising and setting of the sun. In the front towards the sea, is a strong ravelin with a bridge across the moat, and at equal distances all round the towns, these smaller outworks flank the curtains of the inner wall. At a short distance from the King's Bastion is

KING WILLIAM THE IV's GATE,

Erected in 1833-4—in lieu of a small postern called the Spur Gate, leading to Southsea ; passing which we reach the avenue of Trees, and see several batteries used for parade grounds, the exterior of the barracks, and the town of Southsea to the east of the walls : and after a circuit of some extent, reach the

LANDPORT, OR ST. THOMAS GATE-WAY,

the principal entrance to the town, consisting of a fine plain archway, surmounted by a tower and dome, with large drawbridges across the moats ; two guard-houses, and a smaller gateway for foot passengers, at a little distance. At this gate, the interesting ceremony of delivering up the keys of the garrison by the Lieutenant-Governor takes place whenever the Sovereign visits Portsmouth. During this the gates are closed ; until the keys being returned to the proper officers, the royal command is given “to throw open the gates of his Majesty's fortress, that the King may enter.” The crown above the inner part of this gateway was found about forty years ago, in the rubbish above the arch when the earth was removed for some repairs. It formed the keystone of the ancient

gate ; had been removed during the Commonwealth ; and was recut, and placed in its present situation, by the late Mr. James Hay, of Queen-street, Portsea.

At the side of the small gate-way was formerly a stately elm-tree, of noble size ; it projected from the walls which had been built round it. Through this gate pass the water-pipes of the different companies. The flag-staff was erected October 2, 1800 ; and the Magazine on the adjacent bastion has been rebuilt (1827.) Within the gateway and on the Ravelin are Guard-houses. The Walls continue to encircle the Town, passing the Colewort Barracks and St Mary's Close, and having in front the Mill Dam and the Town of Portsea, with the Mill Redoubt, till the passenger reaches the Gateway or Wicket leading to the Dock-road through the Fortification : here they turn to the South-west, and are not so strong or lofty. The Sea formerly reached this portion of the works ; and all the Fortifications on the South-west side of the Town are now in the opinion of competent judges, useless, inasmuch as the arsenal and stores are exterior to them. It has been more than once proposed to remove them ; adding the space thus gained to the New Naval Gunwharf and making the road along Prospect-row from Portsmouth to Portsea.

Among the privy-purse expenses of King Henry the 8th, is the following curious entry. "July 20, 1532, paid to Xpofer Morys, Gunner, Cornelys Johnson, the Master-Smith, and Henry Johnson for their costs in riding to Portsmouth to view the King's Ordnance there, by the space of ten days at ten shillings the day, £ : V."

1708, March. An act passed for appointing Commissioners to treat and agree for certain tenements, land, &c. as shall be judged proper for better fortifying Portsmouth.

On the 13th of June, 1709, Sir Richard Onslow, Bart. and others, were appointed Commissioners to treat and agree for lands as shall be necessary for better fortifying Portsmouth, and for putting into force an act of Parliament."

The Walls pass towards the Camber, having in front the Custom House and the Quay, till they pass a large battery crowned with Trees and reach

KING GEORGE'S GATE,

a noble structure, in the rustic style, adorned with massive pillars, and entablature of grand proportions. Above are various apartments (formerly the offices of the Governor,) and on the inner side, a large Guard-house. Before the erection of the present Gate, (seventy years since,) the entrance was through an open arch in the wall, twelve

feet southward towards the Cage, traces of which are still discernible ; and at the extremity of Crown-street was a small wicket, now closed by stonework, but the shape of which may still be discovered. Between the Quay and King James's-gate is an ancient Bastion, with circular portholes, commanding the drawbridge ; on two sides appear, in bold sculpture, the initials, "I. R. 1687." Here is the Military Hospital. The circle of military defence is completed by a stone wall of varying height, which passes along the inner Camber in front of Oyster-street and White-hart-row, till it reaches the batteries at King James's Gate. For the purpose of real defence, this wall must, from its height, be utterly useless ; its removal, or the allowing of openings in it for egress to the merchant-shipping in the harbour, would be a very great accommodation, or its site might be advantageously occupied by a line of Wharves.

In the colonnade of fine elms on the Ramparts, is a large rookery. The first pair settled in March, 1820.

On the southern side of the Bastion, opposite King's-terrace, is inscribed in large letters, "W. Legge, 1679." He was Governor about the time Parliament granted 6931*l.* for repairs. James and William made great additions ; and, since 1770, many others have been effected at vast expence.

The whole of the moats can be readily filled with water up to the bridges. A spacious glacis and covert-way surrounds the Fortifications on the land side, forming, with them, nearly a quadrangle. From the bottom of the moat, rises a perpendicular stone wall, fifteen feet in height, with a double parapet for small arms upon the mound, planned in bastions and curtains. The bastions regularly flank each other ; and in the angles project the ravelins and spurs in all directions. These have been, of late years, planted with walnut-trees and quickset hedges. The moats were, in 1820, repaired and improved, by narrowing and deepening the trenches. The waters abound with eels, as they formerly did with mullet ; and in one part is a remarkable spring of water of the purest quality.

"In the Rampart-walls of Portsmouth, where the Portland stone is kept soft by the earth behind, the fragments which fall by the action of the atmosphere exactly resemble those of chalk. The mortar used in the erection is that from Butser's-hill, near Petersfield."

July 29, 1714. While the Queen lay ill, the Duke of Ormond gave orders for doubling the guards, and assembling the troops : and Portsmouth was put in a posture of defence.

The garrison of Portsmouth generally consists of three regiments

of Infantry, a division of Royal Marines and Mariner Artillery, detachments of Royal Artillery, and Engineers for repairing the works. These troops are engaged in protecting the Arsenal and public buildings; and in a siege it would require 14,000 men to fully garrison this place. "1726, at present Portsmouth is only manned by about one hundred invalids." The staff officers are a lieutenant-governor, aide-de-camp, major, quarter-master-general, town major, adjutant, clerk to lieutenant-governor, chaplain, physician, surgeon, commandant of royal artillery, barrack-masters, &c.; the office of governor has been abolished.

"MILITARY DISCIPLINE!!"

August, 1819. His Grace the Duke of Wellington arrived here, and proceeded to the Dock-yard. His Grace afterwards took a hasty survey of the lines of the Garrison; during which a fine trait of discipline was shown by a soldier of the Royal Marine Artillery, who, though the person of the Noble Duke had been pointed out to him, on seeing him advance upon the lines to look over into the ditch, instantly proceeded to warn the Master-general of the Ordnance off, and which order was as promptly obeyed as it was given.

GUARD HOUSES.

The main Guard-house of Portsmouth is on the Parade, near the Platform Battery, and was erected in the reign of George the Third. About 1710 the Guard-house stood much nearer High-street, across the Parade, it is thus depicted in some of the plans of that period. A second smaller Guard-house is near King James' Gate; this had formerly an arched colonade in front, projecting across the pavement. A third Guard is at King William's, a fourth and fifth at the Landport, a sixth at King George's Gates, and a seventh at the Mill Redoubt. At all these, sentinels keep watch both by day and night, as well as at most of the smaller postern gates leading from the Garrison.

ST. MARY'S OR THE COLEWORT BARRACKS.

"1694. There are three small parcells of glebe within the towne, one is neare a small acre of land called the Vicar's Close, neare the Land Port, wich more than fourteen yeares agoe the officers of the Ordnance tooke up, to erect thereon an hospital for the garrison, wich was done, and is since turned into a barracks for lodging of

soldiers. I had much trouble about it and was a great loser, but at last got forty shillings yearly rent, which, after seven years delay and frequent attendance and application to superiors, I gained, being part seven years rent together, and since have with some trouble gained an order for the payment here by a clerk of that office alwaye resident in garrison. Kg. Charles ye 2d did promise some further compensation for his seizure of that land, and destroying the vicar's tithes in the several parishes neare the towne, wich were purchased of the owners to enlarge the Fortifications ; but I could never by any friendes procure the settlement of aught while the king lived, and had feint hopes afterwards to expect aught.”*

The above extract is curious, as showing the date of the erection of the Colewort Barracks, which extend some hundred feet, presenting a fine range of buildings, three stories high, having in front a parade-ground of large size, at the extremity of which is a building corresponding in style, formerly used as an armoury. In the front is a bold armorial sculpture of the English arms in alto-relievo. Behind is a second space of ground with ranges of stabling ; and on the opposite side, the apartments of the officers of the Royal Artillery. Government have lately purchased a large piece of land adjoining the barracks for 2000*l.* and (April 1827) many old and ruinous houses near the Parish house have been demolished and a Guard-house erected.

ROYAL MARINE BARRACKS.

Leland, in his *New Year's Gift* to Henry viij. states as follows :

“ 1613. King Henrie the vij. at his firste warres into Fraunce erected in the southe parte of the toune vii great bruing houses with the implements to serve his shippes at such tyme as they shoul go to the se in tyme of warre.”

A part of the houses here described remained till 1825, and were latterly known as the Shot-locker. They were of stone, with lofty roofs, and the walls of great thickness.

“ 1723, April 17. Samuel Shepherd erected on his Maties ground, near the Fourhouse Barracks, a series of buildings, in breadth, feet 211, and in length on the east side next the ramparts, on the south next the barracks, and on the west to the gateway, feet 474, and on the west next Pennie-street [St. Nicholas-street ?] 125 feet long,

* Extract of a letter from Thomas Heather, Vicar of Portsmouth, to Doctor Nicholas, Warden of the college of Winton.

including the gateway, to contain six shops, fifty-six feet long, the remainder for stores, an office for the superintendent, and lodges for watchmen, a weighing-machine, twenty-five feet long, seasoning-house, forty feet long, and a long storehouse. The elevation to be thirty-two feet high, to contain on the east side three stories, and on the side next Pennie-street two stories: the whole to be completed by the 15th of October, 1723. The foundations to be dug out three feet, and the yard paved. The old wall to be pulled down, and a new rain-watern cistern erected, and a large well to be sunk. The whole being for his Mat^{ies} new cooperadge, and for which Samuel Shepherd, master bricklayer, was paid two thousand four hundred ninety-four pounds and eleven pence farthing. The coppers, &c. to be furnished by Andrew Niblett of St. Edmund the King, London, fitted the same year at 9*l.* per cwt. and 42*l.* for a cistern; and the joiners' and house-carpenters' work by Henry Stannyford, Esq. of Portsmouth, which together with all the painting was finished on Nov. 1, 1723, at a cost of 2000*l.*"

1753 and 1756. On the removal of the Cooperage to Woevil, these stores were converted into marine barracks; and in 1823-4, the old Shot-locker and several outhouses in a kind of garden or close, surrounded by a lofty, ruinous stone wall, being part of the original Storehouse close, at the extremity, were demolished, and a series of new brick buildings erected on the site, for the marine artillery and officers. The whole united barracks now form a lengthened square, the principal entrance being opposite Barrack-street. In the mess-room are several good paintings: George III. by Northcote; Lord Barham, and Lord St. Vincent, by Sir W. Beechey; Earl Sandwich, by Zophani; William IV.

Several charitable funds, schools, and a library, exist in this division of royal marines.

In St. Nicholas-street, in a line with the last-mentioned Quarters, stand the

FOREHOUSE BARRACKS,

for infantry; built about sixty years since, on the site of some gavel-fronted houses, with a low gallery on the outside, then used as quarters for the Invalids (or Old Fogeys). The doors were at this time so low that it was an amusement to watch them, in their enormous cocked hats, emerge from their habitations. In the reign of Elizabeth this place was vacant land, called Forehouse close. The present erection will lodge a thousand men and their officers, conveniently.

BATTLE OF PORTSMOUTH.

[At the close of the American War, the Athol Highlanders were ordered to embark here for the East Indies. Having enlisted for service only during the war, they refused, and disarmed their Officers on the Grand Parade. The Main Guard, consisting of the Royal Invalids, endeavoured to quell the tumult, but having no ammunition, were marching off for a reinforcement, when an enraged Highlander fired, and killed one of them on the Queen's Bastion—the rest immediately ran off to their Barracks full speed, except their officer, who being a cripple was taken prisoner, and subjected to much ridicule by the victors. The affair ended in the Regiment being disbanded.]

When the long Yankee war had ceased,
A gallant Highland corps
Was ordered hither to embark
For India's distant shore.

But of the vallant Scots, each man
Sighed for his native home,
To join again his native clan,
And o'er the mountains roam.

In fair Stoke's Bay the transports lay,
And boats were on the strand:
No soldier would the word obey,
Which ordered, "Leave the land!"

"We've served our King and Country well
Full many a fiery day,
And is it lawful now to sell,
And send us far away?"

The old Fogeys then opposed the squall
Which every townsman feared,
Till whistling shot struck Tommy Prawl
When quick they disappeared.

Foolish it would have been to stay—
Their courage who can doubt?
But shot and powder none had they—
What could be done without?

Their leader bold was captive caught,
For quarter forced to beg;
In vain upon escape he thought,
For he'd a wooden leg.

I've heard the aged folks declare,
Nor doubt I what they say,
Those with long legs the happiest were
On that eventful day.

I've heard of one who fled so fast
(Sure running was no crime),
Into a builder's cellar cast,
Up to his neck in lime.

Suffice it, that through all the place
Confusion held her reign,
Till the *braw Scots* marched off apace,
When peace appeared again.

THE CAMBRIDGE BARRACKS.

At the upper end of Penny-street was formerly a timber-yard and carpenters' workshops, known as Stannyford's, and afterwards Wheeler's yard.* It was purchased by Government, and commissariat stores erected there during the Napoleon war. In October, 1825, they were converted into barracks, and first occupied by the 9th regiment (Fusileers.) The principal archway, or entrance, is opposite the Gaol; and there is a second opening into High-street, with a neat Guard-house. The barracks form a square, the apartments on three sides, and a Parade-ground in front, being part of a large garden purchased a few years since from Mr. Owen.

ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY BARRACKS.

On the mud lands of the harbour, the Ordnance Board and the Commissioners of the Victualling Department, erected about 1809-10, a series of large stores, raising the soil to a level with the roadway, and thus masking most effectually all the line of fortification

Samuel Wheeler, proprietor, built in this place a vessel or yacht of such breadth as allowed it to pass through the Quay, or King George's-gate. It was drawn to the water on sledges, and repeatedly caught fire from the weight and friction."

on that side the Town. After some years a portion of these stores were given over by the board to the barrack department, and converted into Barracks, being first occupied by the Corps of Marine Artillery, and one of the Square stores being converted into the

MARINE INFIRMARY,

in lieu of an Hospital formerly occupied in Spring-street, Landport. The barracks consist of a long range of buildings, with a narrow Parade-ground. The entrances are from the road leading to the Mill Redoubt, and there is egress to the sea. These barracks are divided from the new Gun-wharf by a lofty wall, and from the Custom-house by a part of the Camber Lake.

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL

is on a battery in the inner Camber, with an entrance from White-heart-row. This was erected in 1833-4.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S HOUSE*

is situated in the centre of the High-street, and belonged originally to Mr. Varloe, a Gentleman of much celebrity in the political history of the town. After his death it was let to pay the taxes, and during the command of Admiral Parker, purchased by government for two thousand pounds as the residence of the Port-Admiral.

*“ From a Journal of the Imperial Visit.—*The Princes of the blood resided here. On the night of the twenty-second of June, the front exhibited the Star of the Order of the Garter, twelve feet in circumference, in variegated lamps, and on the second and third nights, the front was covered with the naval anchor, surmounted by the diadem and plume of the Regent, producing a most resplendent effect.”

The entrance was originally in the centre, up a flight of stone steps. Where now stands the General's office, to the left of the mansion, was the carriage entrance to the gardens, in which was a large rookery; and on the opposite side, where the entrance now is, was a wall with a small gateway. Previous to the purchase of these premises, the Port-Admiral's residence was at No. 106 in the High-street, and the office was kept for years in the house which

* The price paid by the board of Ordnance to the Admiralty in 1833, for the Lieut.-Governor's house (late the Port-Admiral's) was, exchange of the Fire-barn on Southsea Common with ten years arrears of rental; the Old Slaughter House Store, on which stands the Semaphore, with forty years arrears of rental; and fifteen hundred pounds in hard cash.

now forms the Green-room of the Theatre. On the removal of the Admiral's offices to the Dockyard in 1830 these premises were advertised for sale, but on the urgent representations of many naval men on the utter impropriety of the removal of the Admiral to the Dock, a place from which no view of Spithead and the fleet could be obtained, the sale was stopped, and the house given over to the barrack department: since the occupancy of General Mac Mahon it has undergone much improvement and repair. The garden behind is extensive, and the stabling and offices are in St. Thomas's-street.

The former mansion of the Lieutenant-Governor was in St. Thomas-street, near the wicket of the Landport-gate; consisting of a comfortable dwelling, with a garden, and all the requisite stabling, was purchased from an eminent medical character some years since, and handsomely fitted up. This is now appropriated for officer's quarters. The quarters of the Marine Artillery were in the centre of the High-street, next the residence of the Admiral; consisting of a large house, purchased in 1825 from the family of the late W. Turner, Esq., an eminent wine-merchant. In the garden behind were (1827) erected commodious Mess-rooms; but on the breaking up of the corps, the property was sold to Francis Sharpe, Esq., and pulled down, except the mess-rooms. The Marine Officers have also quarters in a large house in Lombard-street. The residence of the Commandant of the Royal Marines is the house in St. Thomas'-street, formerly the Agent-Victuallers, built about 1700. It is a noble mansion, having a flight of steps in front. On the sale of the Victualling Offices on September the 17th, 1828, the house, with the gardens, and much other property was purchased by J. S. Hulbert, Esq. from whom (immediately after its sale by Government) it was rented for the Marine service.

The close and gardens in Green-row, extending to the parade, are appropriated to the use of the Lieutenant-Governor. These are secured by walls on the side of Penny-street and Green-row, and by the ramparts on the east and south. In one corner is an enclosed space in front of the magazine, and a low arch-way and bridge leads to the Spur or Hot-wall battery on the beach.

THE NAVAL GUN-WHARF.

See those deep-throated engines, whose huge roar
Imbowels with outrageous noise the air,

Of iron globes. Chained thunderbolts and hail

MILTON.

This arsenal is situate on the edge of the Harbour, or land gain-

ed from the sea ; and was commenced in 1797, acting on the suggestions of General Bentham, for the improvement and enlargement of the Ordnance Wharf, in concert with the officers of the Ordnance department at this place ; and so as to combine that extension with the general outline of embankment suitable to the improvement in this port : and, “the providing additional storehouse room for the use of the victualling department, in a manner far more economical, as well as convenient, than that already ordered to be obtained, by bearing the expense of the erection of a new storehouse for the use the Ordnance department.” The land was raised above its former level by the Earth excavated from the new South Dock in the Naval arsenal, as may be seen from the following item :

“Expenses of cartage of soil to the New Gun-wharf in 1800, with extra allowance for ditto, 1672*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* ; 51,694¼ cube yards being removed.”

On Thursday, November 28th, 1811, the foundation stone of the large Storehouse on the New Naval Gun-wharf was laid by William, Duke of Clarence. Soon after 12 o’Clock, His Royal Highness was received by Lieutenant-General Whetham and the principal officers of the garrison and a guard of honour. The company proceeded to the bottom of the foundation, attended by General Eveleigh, when a bed was prepared, to which the Duke put the finishing stroke, and a fine block of Portland Stone was lowered down, upon which was an appropriate inscription ; and in the centre was fixed a brass box, containing the coins of the realm ; on the ceremony being concluded, the band struck up, “God save the King,” and the Duke retired amid the loud cheers of the multitude.

The building of brick and stone presents a massive front towards the Town, and three sides of a square towards the Harbour, having in the centre, a noble archway, surmounted by a lofty tower and cupola, containing an excellent clock. This building contains gun-carriages and every description of Sea Ordnance Store, ready at a moment’s notice.

There is a second long Store near this called “the small Sea Armoury,” and not far distant a Magazine built between 1811 and 1814: the former of these was built by the Ordnance, but given up to the Naval department. On one of these the tower and clock was originally placed ; and at the period of the building, the Camber was deepened, and the mud removed by an invention of a series of revolving buckets, moved by a steam-engine, on the suggestion of General Bentham.

All the buildings here described are in the Parish of Portsmouth.

The sum paid by the Navy Board to the Victualling Commissioners in 1830 was ; for the long Quay Store, (now the Marine Barracks) £13,200 ; for buildings adjoining (now the Marine Infirmary,) £3,100.

In the Gun-wharf are deposited (on the wharfs) the cannon of the ships of war, new and old ; and between the various stores, pyramidal piles of shot of all dimensions ; mortars of gigantic size, and all the various implements of war. There are also working armories, smiths' shops, a small guard-house, &c. The boundary-wall extends from a short distance behind King George's-gate, along the Portsea road to the King's-mill. It was built in 1803, and in it are two fine gates ; on the piers of one of which are two stone mortars. Before the erection of this wall, this enclosure was by palisades, and a low stone wall of great thickness, bounding the sea, through which was the sluice for filling the moats of Portsmouth with water ; it is now enclosed by a door in the wall, between which and the Custom House is a passage and staircase leading to a landing-place.

CIVIL HISTORY.

MERCANTILE, LITERARY, PAROCHIAL BUILDINGS AND ESTABLISHMENTS.

On the road leading to Portsea, in the Parish of Portsmouth, on the Mill-bastion, which is an outwork of the fortification, is situate the King's Mill. Previous to the year 1744, there existed on this spot a mill of small size, but on the 11th of July, in that year, the old mill was taken down, removed, and His Majesty's New Mill commenced by Mr. John Shepherd, who laid the foundations, altered and contrived the water-courses, and raised the arches to a level with the roadway ; a Mr. Spriggs performing all the masonry and bridges now leading to Portsea : and on November 21, 1745, Mr. Shepherd built and finished the mill, Mr. Thomas Read performing all the carpentry, and Mr. Robert Barlow, an eminent millwright, supplying the mill-stones for 360*l.* and the necessary mechanism for 421*l.* In 1756, June 21st, the mill not being capacious enough, Mr. Barlow erected a new pair of flood-

gates and a great variety of machinery ; and in November, formed a new Tail Mill, which he finished in ten weeks. The difference of the two mills can be readily traced on the exterior. The master-miller's house was built in 1779 : the expense of the whole establishment being above seven thousand pounds.

The building is about a quarter of a mile from the Quay, or King George's-gate, and, being too ponderous for the soil, is erected on piles thirty feet long, and shod with iron. As a means of working it, a sufficient quantity of water is admitted into the dam, or mill-pond ; at high water the flood-gates are closed, and when the tide has ebbed a little, the water is worked back again into the harbour by a channel, (of sufficient depth to allow vessels of large tonnage to reach the building and discharge their cargoes,) which passes through the new Gun-wharf. At this mill the grain used at the Victualling-office was ground, and, being within the fortifications, could supply the town in case of siege. The average quantity of wheat manufactured here during the late war was three hundred quarters weekly, and during the peace it not only supplied all the flour and biscuit-meal required for this port, but considerable quantities for the department at Deptford. This Building is now the property of the Board of Ordnance and let.

The Mill was exchanged in 1833 for other property, with the Ordnance board, being valued at £4,000.

THE MILL-DAM OR POND.

A branch of the harbour forms the mill-dam, being connected with it by the passage under the King's Mill, and before the finishing of the Portsmouth Fortification communicated with the Harbour, or rather formed an integral part of it. This pond or sheet of water forms the division between Portsmouth and Portsea, is part of its defence, and joins the moats of Portsmouth by a new cut, made in 1819-20. It was anciently, however, much larger than at present, extending to Lake-lane, and behind the residence of the Commandant of Engineers ; also to Queen-street in another direction, and over various parts of St. George's-square, rendering these parts a kind of swamp. The ordnance have at different periods taken large portions from it for new work, more especially behind the new Ordnance-offices on the Parade. Its shape was also materially altered by the new Fortifications of Portsea.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

On the external side of George's-gate on the quay, on ground rented of the Corporation, a series of wooden stores were erected in 1811, and the quay greatly enlarged and improved, by the Ordnance department; these were given over to the Victualling-board on payment of costs, and in 1830 converted into a new Custom-house, on the removal of the Victualling department to Woevil. The old Custom-house was at the lower end of Broad-street, Portsmouth, where stood originally a public-house, called the Three Guns, or Ordnance Arms; afterwards an ordnance store, and then converted into the Custom-house; subsequent, however, to the original establishment of the denomination, which stood opposite the ancient Quay-gate in Oyster-street—a low stone-fronted house, with small, deep-set windows (now demolished.) The one in Broad-street was erected, in 1785, it was a large, dark brick building, containing all the requisite offices and stores, having in the rear communication with the camber, or lake.

In 1783-4, the following notable example of political economy deserves record. It was in contemplation to erect the Custom-house on the site where now stand Mr. Lindegren's wharfs, &c.; a place the best suited in the whole port for such an important establishment, as not a boat or vessel could leave the Harbour without being seen; a difference of 200*l.* prevented the plan from being carried into execution, and the officers in the late situation had not even a glimpse of the ocean.

In Bath-square is the Custom-house watch-house, in which the boats of the revenue-officers are kept, and watch day and night; no vessel enters the port without being hailed, and proper inquiries made respecting her.

1827—There entered this port, in this year, 11,247 tons of British ships; 6856 tons Foreign.

The business transacted here is very great, being principally import, reaching within these few years 93,000*l.* per annum; and six thousand sufferances being issued for coastways trade! Item, 15,264,000 eggs imported from France in one year, paying a duty of 5300*l.*

Portsmouth is a member port to the mother port of Southampton. 1798, imports, 79,000*l.*; coast duties, 15,500*l.*; exports, 2000*l.*—A.D. 1272, Duties on Wine at Southampton and Portsmouth, 13*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* A.D. 1798, 22,000*l.*—A.D. 1815, 137,012*l.* at Portsmouth only! What is termed the Port of Portsmouth extends

from Hill-head, near the opening of the Southampton water on the west, to the town of Emsworth on the East; having within its precincts Langstone and Portsmouth havens, Spithead, the Mother-bank, Stokes-bay, St. Helen's harbour, and part of the Solent Sea.

The establishment of the Customs consists of a collector, clerks, to ditto, comptroller, clerk to ditto, surveyor, and comptrolling surveyor of warehouses, landing surveyor, searcher, landing waiters, and comptrolling searcher; jerquer, messenger, warehouse-keeper for bonded goods, coastwaiters for Portsmouth, Gosport, Fareham, and Cosham; tide surveyors, supervisor of riding officers, riding officers, inspecting commander of preventive boats within the port, surveyor's clerk, assistant warehouse-keeper for seized goods, superintendant of quarantine, commanders and mates of cutter. Nine weighers, lockers, and watchmen; and twenty-eight tide-waiters. The preventive stations are at Southsea Castle, Cumberland Fort, and Hayling Island; and on the Gosport side, at Stoke's Bay and Hill-head.

The sum paid to the Victualling-board by the Customs in July, 1828, for the Quay Store and Wharf, was £8,500; Since then the centre part of the building has been rebuilt and altered at no very inconsiderable expense; the principal object contemplated by the removal was the prevention of smuggling. This end was accomplished by fixing the Customs Establishment immediately contiguous to the Town Quay. The Property in Broad-street materially suffers by this arrangement.

THE CAMBER, OR MERCANTILE HARBOUR

lies environed on every side by buildings—being thus bounded; by the marine barracks, the infirmary, the custom-house-quay, the town quay, the town walls, military hospital, the walls to King James's Gate, the houses in Broad and East-streets, the Baltic wharfs, the stores in East-street, the old custom-house (now the American office) the transport stores and Lindegren's wharf, forming within this irregular space a basin for the reception of merchant vessels and the coasting craft; in many parts it is surrounded by wharves, and it was formerly of much greater size, but by the extension of the Naval Gun-wharf in 1797, and the new custom-house-quay, it has suffered some diminution; the town quay communicates with Portsmouth by the Quay Gates, and with Portsea by a road passing along the edge of the Moat, by the King's Mill and Gun-wharfs. The residence of the wharfinger is on the town

quay, where the tollage due to the Corporation is collected*; and before the erection of the present house, the wharfinger's residence presented a curious appearance, being almost covered with pigeon-houses.

THE OLD PORTSMOUTH VICTUALLING OFFICE.,

in the reign of Elizabeth, was known as the Queene's Greate and Little Cooperadge. The buildings forming one side of St. Mary-street were erected in 1724, (the date being on many parts of the stores,) and comprehended at that time nearly the whole of the establishment, known by the names of the New and Old-end, and Mill-stores, the old Loft and Butter-house, the Coopers' shops, and a large Slaughter-house, with pickle and beef sheds, and a space called the Hog-yard, with outhouses. The Agent's house in St. Thomas's-street was probably erected at the same time.

"February 4, 1710. The Commons represent the neglect of the Commissioners for victualling her Majestie's Navy, in suffering the brewers to defraud the public in several instances, it seeming that the captains and pursers of the shippes agreed to take so much short of the proper allowance; the brewers allowing the captains and pursers a sum of money, and put the rest in their pockets, taking receipt for the whole; and that this practice had been for years connived at by the late Ministry." Certain fraudulent practices of Thomas Ridge, M. P.; and Messrs, Rolfe, Best, Tyhurst and Kelly, brewers, of Portsmouth, discovered and exposed.

In King-street was the Naval Bakehouse, where was manufactured the biscuit for the shipping; there were six ovens, which, if necessary, could afford twenty-four suits per diem, each suit consisting of one hundred-pounds, and the whole producing seven hundred and thirty-four bags weighing 112lb. Several of the ovens were worked with coal instead of wood. "In 1774, the King went to see the Navy Bakehouse, and according to form, was presented with a biscuit, which he ate as walking through the streets conversing with his court-attendants, from example, it became the fashion to walk the streets eating biscuits."

* The emoluments of the Wharfinger are 10 per cent; the per centage averages about 100*l.* a year, and he has a house to live in. In addition to the per centage, he had a gratuity of 10*l.* from the Corporation: but for which he employed a person to collect small tolls.

RECEIPTS IN THE YEARS

	1791.	1792.	1793.	1830.	1831.	1832.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage.....	167	160	178	840	1190	1160

On the opposite side of King-street are the long stores ; in 1787 the buildings on this site were in a very dilapidated state, not so lofty as the present ones, and being of stone, with portals of the same, had become black and ruinous, having much the appearance of ancient ordnance-offices. Behind the houses in Crown-street, portions of the ancient walls remain, the Admiralty having allowed Mr. Wyatt, the architect, to make use of the old materials in the new constructions. They extend the whole length of the street, are double and of great height. These stores were in 1830 bought by Messrs. Burrell and Fitchet of Fareham for £6457.

A century ago, the whole of this establishment comprehended forty persons, including the officers.

In 1776, a new Slaughter-house was erected in St. Mary-street, and the buildings repaired and improved ; and in 1781-2, a new store built, and the Agent's office much improved. In the Agent's walk was a very large Egyptian statue of black porphyry, now in the British Museum, and in the office, a painting, said to represent the original Farm-house at Haslar, where now stands the Hospital ; in the Storekeeper's office was another large picture, and in the Agent's house a painted ceiling ; these were all taken from the original Manor-house at Weovil, and have been again removed to the new Victualling office.

In 1827 Major-general Stapylton made an official visit for the removal of the entire of the Victualling establishment to Weovil, where the brewery department has always been carried on. By consolidating the duties, the services of fewer persons, as clerks, masters of trades, artificers, and labourers, are required, and a material annual saving thereby effected. The Agent Victualler's office was abolished, (Feb. 1828,) and its business consolidated with that of the resident Commissioner at Haslar. And shortly after the whole of the Stores were removed and the property sold by auction, principally to J. Hulbert Esq., Mr. Bramble, the Philosophical Society, and Messrs Burrell of Fareham ; the Agent's house and Stores sold for £6457, the Bakehouse £2075.

BANKING IN PORTSMOUTH.

The first banking establishment in the town, was held at the large house, No. 96 in the High-street, being the residence of Messrs. Drew, Chaldecott, and Co. The white house at the corner of the Parade, built on the site of a low gable fronted bookseller's shop, kept by Carr, by Peter Tayler Esq., the original commissary in Foote's farce of that name, has been, and *still* is used as a banking

house. This was the locale of Godwin's bank, through all its changes of partnership till its final dissolution in 1818, it became then the property of Messrs. Grant, whose bank is there held still. These gentlemen have a branch bank at Portsea. Near the New Market, is the banking house of Burbey and Co. originally, Grant and Burbeys, and nearly opposite Hector MacLorg and Jackson's firm. During the war, there was a bank in Broad-street (Messrs. Burridges.) Messrs. Atkins have for many years and do at present officiate in these money transactions to a great extent.

A branch Bank of the Bank of England was established (nearly opposite the George Inn) in Feb. 1834. It has been since removed to the site of the house three doors above the George, one of the most ancient in the town, and formerly of great extent, being divided into four large houses. In one of the rooms was an ornamental ceiling, in which the English arms appeared, *viz.* the arms of the House of Stuart, surrounded by the Garter; and in the angles of the compartments, 1st, a lion rampant; 2nd, a griffin; 3rd, a small lion; 4th, a fleur de lis. These are repeated four times, varying in size. During some repairs and again on the demolition of the centre portion which projected into the street, coins of the reign of Elizabeth were dug up.

PUBLIC CONVEYANCES, COACHES, &c.

In the year 1770, Coachmen between Portsmouth and London, were very boisterous drunken personages, with Bardolph visages, and conversation full of rude oaths; Guards carried huge blunderbusses loaded with triple bullets, for fear of highwaymen in the forest of Bere; the road at Cosham, was deep and narrow; London was seventy-three miles distant, and people made their wills before they encountered the perils of the way. The Royal Mail was despatched by express daily at two o'clock in the afternoon, and arrived at six next morning. At length the spirit of improvement dawned, and Clarke's flying machine (in one day) set out from the King's Arms Inn, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday night at ten o'clock, returning on the alternate nights, while their other machine continued to rumble forth from the Blue Post Inn every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights, and returned every other night. The Western and Eastern Mails came in three times only in the week.

During the first American War, a great increase of public conveyances took place, and the road was very much improved. The coaches, however, as late as 1805-10, departed at five in the

morning, and came in late at night. Now there are coaches driven by the proprietors, many of them men of education and property, horsed with cattle of the finest kind, departing, and returning from all parts of the kingdom, from the several inns in Portsmouth at almost every hour in the day; while the Mail leaves at half-past nine at night, and arrives at five in the morning. About 1830 the first fly-carriage was started; now there are abundance at several of the livery stables and inns, which have entirely surpassed the old fashioned shattery dans (as they were denominated) or sociable omnibusses, donkey carts and other half-way-house vehicles. Short stages to the neighbouring towns are also establishing. Most of the public coaches start from Portsmouth, and pass through Portsea and Landport.

In olden time, two days were spent,
 'Twixt Portsmouth and the Monument;
 When Flying Diligences plied,
 When men in Roundabouts would ride,
 And, at the surly driver's will,
 Get out and climb each tedious hill.
 But since the rapid Freeling's age
 How much improved the *English Stage!*
 Now in eight hours with ease, the post
 Reaches from Newgate Street our coast.

THE POST-OFFICE

is in Green-row; Letters for the London Mail must be put in before nine o'clock in the Evening: those received by the same conveyance are delivered at Nine in the Morning:—no bags are sent Saturday Evening, nor any received on Monday Morning.—There is also a Mail every day to Bristol, which conveys letters to all the Western Counties: the bags are closed at Six in the Evening—delivery at Nine in the Morning: *Letters for the Isle of Wight* are sent by Steam conveyance. For public convenience there is a Post-Office in Portsea. Of conveyances by water, in lieu of the Plymouth hoy, Captain Clarke's Sloop, the Isle of Wight hoy, and the Southampton Vessels of which the following advertisement from a very old Newspaper gives a tolerable idea:

"John Weeks, Master of the Duke of Gloucester Sloop, takes this method to thank his friends and the public for their past favors in the Southampton and Portsmouth passage trade, and hopes for a continuance of the same, as they may depend on his care, and the time of sailing more regular than for many years past. He sails from Southampton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and returns every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, wind and weather permitting.

N. B. For the public's further dependence, he has two Vessels in the Employ.

* * * To be spoke with at Mr. Cheetham's at the Royal George, Southampton, and the White Hart, on the Point, Portsmouth.

We have now Steam Vessels to all parts of the Coast; varying however in their period of departure, according to the season of the year.

1825—April 5. The Union Steam Packet first started between this Port and Ryde. To celebrate the day, two hogsheads of beer were given to the watermen and others at Ryde Pier, and a like quantity at the Quebec Hotel, Portsmouth. At this period, plans were suggested for a Ship Canal from hence to London, at an estimated expense of 4,000,000*l*.

THE PUBLIC PRESS.

The earliest newspaper printed seems to have been the Portsmouth and Gosport Gazette, commenced about June the 1st, 1747, and printed at the office facing the platform, by G. Jones from London. The Portsmouth Mercury a later publication was printed at Southampton, and the Salisbury Gazette appears to have circulated in the town. About 1790, Donaldson's Portsmouth Gazette was established on high antigallican principles and it is now very curious to turn over the files of the paper, and trace the origin and rise of many important circumstances connected with the place. This paper was printed opposite the Parade in Battery-row, at Mowbray's office, who in later years had some share in its editorship: the office being destroyed by fire the paper afterwards languished, and was succeeded by Mottley's Hampshire Telegraph. The Courier was established about 1807, and continued for a few years, and in 1830, the Herald edited by Henry Deacon, Esq. was started, but did not long continue.

Harrison's Hampshire Telegraph is now the only paper published in the town; although those of the neighbouring cities and towns, circulate according to the political bias of readers.

MUNICIPAL WARD.

	Rate Payers	Amt. of Rating
<i>St. Thomas's Ward, or Portsmouth</i> —(nine Councillors)—All the town within its ramparts, including the New Gunwharf and all the Water Boundaries, with Horsey Island.	1,100	£16,800

TAVERNS, HOTELS, &c.

May 1, 1661. "Set forth again from Petersfield, and so to Portsmouth; a very pleasant and strong place: and we lay at the Redd Lyon, where Hasilrigge and Scott and Walton did hold their council when they were here against Lambert and the Committee

of Safety." The inn here spoken of by Mr. Pepys, was on the site of the house No. 91, in the High-street. It was demolished in 1800 by Mr. Way, the licence being removed to the present inn behind. In front, towards the High-street, was a large window, supported by a porch and pillars, projecting into the street. The long range of buildings forming one side of Church-lane (on the walls of which may still be seen the date, two hundred years since) formed the stables of the ancient inn.

The *George Inn* was originally a thatched house, of small size, called the *Waggon and Lamb*, having in front a stone trough for water; on the right and left were low gavel-fronted houses, sunk below the level of the street, with wooden rails in front, and old-projecting windows. June, 1800. These have given place to the present commodious Hotel. The *Fountain* is another Hotel, in the High-street, and in Broad-street, are the *Blue-posts*, the *Star and Garter*, and the Quebec Taverns. The *Crown Hotel*, known during the American and Napoleon wars as the Naval House, is now fast going to decay and ruin, proving that not even the Crown itself can withstand the ravages of a chancery suit.

The *Parade Coffee-house and Hotel*, at the corner of the Parade, was formerly the house of the Captains of the Navy, and in the "olden time," before Lieutenants wore epaulets, and Captains wore red breeches, three-cornered hats, buckles and pigtails, it was not uncommon to see Captains of the Royal Navy sitting outside this house on forms, smoking long pipes.

The *Three Tuns* public house is also ancient; it is remarkable as being the place in which the delegates met during the mutiny, and kept Lord Howe and attendants waiting on the staircase while they deliberated on his proposals. The *Globe* is in Oyster-street.

In some of the streets, public houses abound. These, in the war time, were principally used by the sailors and marines; on the Point, the business done was almost incredible, and the scenes realized the following description:—

"Let us to Comus' Court repair."

Hail! place of noise, distraction, fun!
Hail, "Point" of wide spread fame!
To every nation fully known,
Which knows the English name!
Here oft in midnight revelry,
The violin and song,
Conjoined with mirth and jollity,
Exhilarate the throng.
Here taverns numberless indeed
In long succession rise;
And the gay shops of Israel's seed
Entice the seamen's eyes.

Since the peace, the taverns certainly remain, but the noise, traffic, and consequent profits, have entirely disappeared. There are 109 public houses in the town, fifty being on the Point.

PAVEMENT.

Portsmouth was paved by an act of parliament passed in 1763; the work was completed in 1773, at an expense of 8886*l.* 8*s.* Subsequent acts invest the Commissioners with power to light and watch the town. The town is better paved than any in Hampshire. The Commissioners are self-elected. Three three-penny rates are raised in the year, two for paving and cleaning, and one for watching. The Corporation formerly were not assessed; latterly they have been, and now pay 9*l.* a-year. The amount collected for paving and lighting the town is about 900*l.* annually.

PUBLIC OFFICES.

The Excise Office, the Office for the King's Taxes, and the magistrates both for the borough and county are in St. Thomas's-street; the Town Clerk's office, and that for Registration according to act of Parliament, are in the High-street.

The large breweries belong to Messrs. Pike and Co., Deacon, Garrett, and Knott, and these parties are the proprietors of many of the public houses; there are also several small breweries in the town.

FREE MART OR SAINT PETER'S FAIR.

St. Peter's Day was formerly a holiday of local importance, and is still memorable from the historical association connected with it. Fairs were originally instituted for the necessary purposes of commerce, and were kept, in some instances, for several weeks to afford the opportunity of their being attended by foreigners. The Fair of Portsmouth was anciently of considerable consequence to the town as a mart for the sale of woollen cloths; and was much resorted to by the French, from Normandy, and also by the Dutch. The fair was established in the reign of Richard the First, to commence on the feast of St. Peter *ad vincula*, and to continue 15 days. One of the last public acts of the Lion-hearted Prince, previously to embarking at Portsmouth, in 1194, on his fatal expedition against Philip of France, was, the granting the charter which appointed this fair.

Richard, by the Grace of God, King of England, &c. &c. to the Arch-Bishops, &c. &c. and all the loving subjects of all our territory, Greeting—Know, that we retain in our hand our Borough of Portesmuth, with all that thereunto appertaineth, and in it we establish, give, and grant, a Fair, to endure once in every year, for fifteen days, (to wit) from the Feast of St. Peter. We

also grant, that all our loving subjects of England, &c. and of all our territories and of others, may come to the aforesaid Fair, and may go and return well and in peace, and may have all the free customs and liberties which they have at the Fairs of Winton and Hoyland, or any where else in our territories.

According to the usage of the Church of that period, and for more than three centuries afterwards, the feast of St. Peter *ad vincula* was held on the 1st. of August: but the 29th June was also a feast day of the same Saint; and in these circumstances, when the Church came to be reformed by Edward the Sixth, the Feast of St. Peter on the 1st, or *the Gule* of August, being of superstitious origin, was abolished, and the 29th June became the only feast of the Apostle recognized by law. Charles the First, in confirming the fair, which, according to the charter from him, was to begin on St. Peter *ad vincula*, necessarily referred to the feast established by the Legislature, and he at the same time prohibited the fair which had been accustomed to be held on the 1st August. The long reign of Elizabeth, followed by that of James, had not been sufficient to annul the ancient usage; but in conformity with the Reformed Church and the charter of Charles, the observance of St. Peter's Day on the 29th June at length prevailed, and the fair was held accordingly, until the adoption of the Gregorian Calendar, in 1752. By the Act which then passed for correcting the errors of the Julian Calendar, all feasts and fasts were to be observed according to the new calendar; but, to prevent the inconveniences which would have arisen from the change, fairs were to be kept according to the old style, or upon the same natural days upon which they would have been kept in case the calendar had not been altered, that is to say eleven days later than they would have happened according to the new style. The feast of St. Peter and the Free Mart were thus separated, the one from the other, by the space of so many days; or in other words, although the feast was advanced by anticipating time eleven nominal days, the fair was not to be kept until the actual day on which the feast would have fallen, supposing the calendar not to have been corrected.

The following advertisement will explain the changes which took place:

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE,

That (by Virtue of the Act of Parliament for regulating the commencement of the Year, and for correcting of the Calendar) the Fair on Portsdown, which hath hitherto been held on the 15th, 16th and 17th Days of July, Old-Style, will, this year, and every year for the future, be held and kept on the 26th, 27th and 28th days of July, according to the New-Style.

1753.

A. HUMPHREYS, Steward.

The stallage is 1s. per foot. The fair was (in Elizabeth's reign) of importance, and gave encouragement to Foreign merchants. The stands now contain nothing but dolls and gingerbread. The revenue from the fair for six years was, £40—£33—£44—£55—£60—£57.

Free mart begins on the 10th of July, and continues fourteen days, to the great annoyance of every peaceable-disposed person.

1803, July 26. A thousand pound weight of bread bestowed on the French prisoners at Porchester castle, by a benevolent person of the name of Deaken, known by the title of "the man with the black beard," who visited the fair selling Tunbridge ware. Portsmouth. The *cour de pied poudre*, vulgo *pie powder*, has been discontinued many years. A large open hand, bearing the crest of the borough (expressive of the welcome and good fellowship strangers were and still are to receive), is annually suspended from the Town-hall. In the time of the late war, the fair extended from King James's-gate to the Lieutenant Governor's house in St. Thomas's-street; and during the American war it consisted of merely a few stalls on each side the High-street.

THE OLD MARKET HOUSE*

Leland, in his Itinerary, says: "One Carpenter, a riche man, made of late tyme, in the mydle of the High-streete of the town, a Toun-house." What the particular shape or form of this edifice was, we have been unable to discover; but in 1736, a second building was erected under the auspices of Mr. Vining, then mayor of this borough, who deposited under the northern corner pier, a metallic plate, &c. The edifice consisted of a market-place, with arches on the sides and end, a noble hall of fine proportions, with a vaulted ornamental ceiling, fourteen feet high; and at the western end, the Record-room, and above, several small rooms and stores. The Hall was lighted by a large Venetian window at the end, and five on either side. Above the large entrance was placed an emblazonment of the armorial crest of the Borough, with the date and Mr. Vining's name. Above the roof was a small cupola and dome, (in which hung a bell,) taken down in 1826. This cupola was quite in unison, and there was much taste and architectural knowledge displayed in the building. It was en-

* *The market tolls.*—Green-stalls in the market pay 6d. each on the market days; fish stalls 4d.; poultry stalls, 6d.; the persons who stand in the street on market days with fruit, pay 1d.; and those who stand behind the market pay 1½d. In 1829 these tolls collected amounted to 38*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* The butchers in the market pay 6d. each market day; a butcher's cart in the street, if he does not keep a shop, 6d. each; and a barrow, 3*d.* The butcher's stalls amounted to 41*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

RECEIPTS IN THE YEARS

	1791.	1792.	1793.	1830.	1831.	1832.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Market Standings,	58	70	67	41	40	35
Market Tolls,	29	25	26	90	93	96

The Sergeant collects the butcher's fees, for which he gets a per centage amounting to about 6*l.* in the year.—*Corporation Report.*

larged and improved in 1796, in the mayoralty of John Godwin, Esq. by the erection of a council-chamber, supported by eight Corinthian pillars, forming a portico. Previous to the erection of the last-mentioned room, the ascent to the Hall was by a flight of twelve stone steps, with two smaller ones on each side the cage. The Corinthian pillars formed a small portico on a kind of platform, round which extended an iron rail, while the steps were terminated by a broad stone parapet, with iron lamp-posts.

From the northern extremity projected a long range of wooden shambles, with a roof supported by wooden pillars and covered with slate, the rendezvous and receptacle after nightfall of every species of vicious company.—April 3, 1827. The magistrates determined that these shambles should be finally removed on Friday the 27th.

The late General Fisher offered, at the time of the Imperial visit, to remove the edifice, and new pave the road-way to correspond with the other parts of the street, in the short space of one single night, so great an obstruction was it considered.

NEW MARKET HOUSE, HALL AND POLICE STATIONS.

1836. February 9. On a motion of Mr. William Lang, in the Court of Council, a Committee was appointed to consider of the best means of removing the old market-house and erecting a new one. A few days after, a public meeting of the inhabitants was held, at which it was unanimously declared that the old building was a nuisance; a site was offered by the Carter family, and by the exertion of Mr. Lang, between ten and eleven hundred pounds were raised by subscription. May 12, the council agree to advance two thousand five hundred pounds in addition to the private subscriptions, for the new market-house, the site and buildings ordered to be purchased, plans and elevations designed by Mr. Bramble accepted by the Council, and the contract for the building taken by Messrs. Voller, Wells and Chalkley, at a sum of 2,460*l.* allowing 260*l.* for the old market-house; and on September the fifth, the High-street presented a clear roadway, for the first time since the reign of Henry viij. Among the subscribers were J. Bonham Carter, Esq. 400*l.*; Edward Carter, Esq. 120*l.*; F. Baring, Esq. 100*l.*; Admiral Durham, 100*l.*; W. Grant, Esq. 75*l.*; J. Macartney, Esq. 25*l.* The site was occupied by a public house, (the White Horse,) two other tenements, part of a store belonging to Mr. Burbey, two old houses in Pembroke-street, the property of Mr. Thorpe, and a portion of the Dolphin yard.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA'S BIRTH-DAY, 1837.

It having been decided by the Town Council, that the laying of the foundation stone of the intended Market-house, by the Mayor, should form one of the features of the day, soon after two o'clock, a procession for that purpose was formed at the Sessions' House, composed of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councilors, the County and Borough Magistrates, the Vicar, Sir Philip Durham, G.C.B. Sir Frederick Maitland, the Staff of the Lieutenant-Governor, Colonel Forbes, and other Naval and Military Officers, who attended by special invitation; a large number of the Burgesses also joined in the procession, the bands of the Royal Marines and of the Commander-in-Chief preceding. The procession passed down High-street, the streets and windows being crowded with spectators. On its arrival at the site of the intended building, and after the necessary preparations had been made, his worship went through the ceremony of laying the stone, after which three hearty cheers were given for the Princess Victoria, the band playing the National air. The procession was most deficient in effect, viz., the Mayor being the only member of the Corporation robed. The Mace and officers were in attendance, and the flag of the Corporation was also displayed, but the Aldermen and Councilmen did not assume their gowns; their plain dress contrasted so widely with the rich uniform and splendid decorations worn by the Commander-in-Chief, and the other Naval and Military officers who attended, and who in compliment appeared in full costume, that, with the exception of the Mayor, the whole Council were thrown into shade, not one could be distinguished, while many a joke on the republican display was heard on all sides.*

* That this public and most rude behaviour to the parties invited was not unanimously adopted, is proved from the following extract:—

Town Council Meeting, May 21, 1837.

The Mayor.—“Every arrangement has been made, and the heads of the public departments invited. *Mr. Bilton*.—The Burgesses should be invited. *Mr. Carter* would move that the Mayor and Council attend. *Mr. Atkins*—the Council ought not to be compelled to attend. *Mr. Carter*—That the Mayor attend in his gown. There was a bye-law for the Mayor to have a gown—one of the laws not repealed. *Mr. Jones*.—That the Mayor and Aldermen attend in their red gowns, and the Council in gowns, similar to those worn by the old Burgesses.” *Mr. Williams*—The naval and military have their costume, the Judges of the land also, the Council as the representatives of the borough should not be without some peculiar mark of distinction. I am aware it will be the subject of ridicule, but the wisest and best of things have been ridiculed. If the King were to visit Portsmouth, how should they as a Council appear? It would not seem respectful to present themselves in a simple garb. If it be a concentration of dignity for the Mayor to appear robed, there can be no dire-

That portion of the new market-house which is situate in Penny-broke-street, is the station for the civic watch, and near the quay, in Oyster-street, is a small prison or cage for the confinement of disorderly people; considering the population, it is very little used.

THE NEW GAOL OF THE BOROUGH,

situate in Penny-street, was commenced in 1805, and completed in 1809, at an expense of eighteen thousand pounds, and is a fabric which does honour to the borough. It was begun in the mayoralty of William Goldson, Esq. in pursuance of a presentment by the grand-jury on the inadequacy of the old building, where prisoners of every description formed one promiscuous throng, and, at each quarter-sessions, those for trial were led in fetters through the public market to the court. Here, however, prisoners are properly classed, and male and female kept separate, with good discipline, united with humanity. Over the gaol are the apartments for the dispatch of the business of the borough: a sessions'-room, of noble proportions, well lighted, and furnished with every convenience. By means of a small staircase, the prisoners are brought up from their cells into the body of the court, by which the noise and disturbance common on such occasions, is completely avoided. There is likewise a large Council-chamber, and offices for the town-clerk, &c. In the Council-chamber is a large engraving of Portsmouth in the reign of Henry the Eighth, from a painting by Holbein: also a portrait of Adam Carter, Esq. in his robes of office, painted by the late Rev. George Cuthbert. There is also an ancient table, with carvings in wood, and in the record-chamber is preserved

THE ANCIENT CORPORATION PLATE,

viz., a standing covered cup of silver gilt, given, in 1580, by Sir Robert Lee, Kt., formerly Lord Mayor of London—a great goblet of silver gilt, and three silver spoons, given by Mrs. Elizabeth Bod-

fiction of dignity in others wearing the gowns also. *Mr. Bilton*.—I shall be better pleased if they attend without costume. This is not the time to urge on the Council the adoption of a costume, for as the office is not for life, it will be hard on individuals to be put to the expense of it; I trust that ere long, those distinctions will cease to be regarded as proof of the personal dignity of the wearer. *Mr. Burbey*.—Half the Council will be excluded. *Mr. Jones*.—There will be no difficulty in obtaining gowns. These gentlemen who have the honour of a seat on the Aldermen's bench will surely not mind the expense of obtaining gowns. *Mr. Chamberlain*.—Gowns should be provided at the public expense. *Mr. Carter*.—There will be great difficulty in obtaining 13 gowns. *Mr. Jones*.—They may be obtained in 36 hours. Amendment lost by 11 to 15.

kin—one small silver goblet, and three silver spoons, given, in 1594, by Mr. Joshua Saviour, formerly master-gunner of the gar-rison—a standing covered silver gilt cup, given by Messrs. John Watts, William Bryan, and John Riddlesden—a great silver standing cup with cover, given by Sir Benjamin Berry, Kt., governor of the town—a silver cup and cover, given, in 1609, by Mr. Thomas Bonner—three silver wine bowls, given by Mr. William Haberly—a silver basin and ewer, given by John Herman, Esq.—a double-gilt salt-cellar with cover, given by Mr. James Morray—a silver salt-cellar, given by Mr. Edward Silvester—a great silver bowl, given, in 1629, by Mrs. Elizabeth Ridge—a silver tankard, given, in 1679, by Thomas Hancock, alderman—a great silver flagon, given, in 1682, by Capt. Thomas Allen—two great silver gilt flag-ons, given, in 1683, by the Most Noble Louisa, Duchess of Ports-mouth—one large silver gilt mace, (to be borne before the mayor), given by Sir Josiah Child, Kt.—two small silver maces. The mace is still used on all public occasions, and the plate was anciently displayed on the mayor's table at the corporation dinners; the council having had the common sense not to dispose of what must ever be considered a municipal heir-loom, it will probably still continue to grace the festivals of the civil magistrate.

In the gaol are held four sessions of the peace yearly: a court of record every Tuesday, in which any person may sue for a debt not under forty shillings. At the sessions, petty larcenies and small crimes are tried, but nothing capital can be determined here. The chandeliers in the sessions-room were formerly in the old Town-hall; and the bell in the cupola above the ante-room is very ancient. On this cupola is placed, as a vane, the arms of the Corporation; and above the principal front is a flag-staff, on which is displayed, at particular times, the Corporation flag.

This building will shortly be much enlarged, by the erection of a chapel, additional yards, &c. for which purpose the site of the almshouses founded by Mr. Burgess for widows, has been purchased for near seven hundred pounds by the Corporation; and on the farther extremity, the large stone-yard and building, together with several tenements in the rear of the alms-houses in St. Nicholas-street where new buildings have been erected.

The original Gaol was termed the White-house: it stood where is now the Clarence hotel or upper end of the Crown inn. It was a pointed-fronted house, with small square iron-grafted casements: in front was a row of iron palisades, the door being in the centre through an iron gate, over which was the crest of the borough,

and in the corner a large pump for supplying the prison with water. The well still exists in front, under the curb-stone of the pavement: a few years since it suddenly foundered in, to the imminent danger of the London mail and passengers. If our memory serves us, one of the horses was killed by falling into it; but the traces breaking, the rest were saved. In the centre of the front was a small casement, from which the hand or glove was exhibited during the mart or fair. Behind this front tenement, which was very confined, was a paved court-yard; and behind this the prison or dungeon. In the court-yard was a remarkably fine mulberry-tree; but, a man having effected his escape by ascending it and reaching the roof of the adjoining house, it was cut down. The edifice was of Portland stone, and very strong and ancient, but extremely inconvenient and unwholesome. It was sold to a Mr. Herman, in 1805, for £1000, and by him pulled down, and the present house or hotel erected. In a large coach-house behind, the original under-ground dungeon still exists, and is used as a coal-cellar: the descent was by a trap-door and iron ladder, which was withdrawn at night. In this dungeon was confined the celebrated Jack the painter. During the Jubilee, in the 50th year of the reign of George the Third, this hotel, and the coach-houses behind, being in an unfinished state, were converted into immense supper-rooms and fitted up with amazing magnificence and taste, and several hundred persons banqueted in what but a few months previous had been the seat of misery and crime.

PUBLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

In the year 1732, Dr. Smith, a physician long resident in the town, bequeathed an estate called East Standen Farm, in the Isle of Wight, in trust to the Dean and Chapter of Christ-church, Oxford, for the establishment of a free grammar school in the town, and authorizing them to pay salaries of £50. per annum to a master, and £30. to an usher. In the year 1750, the rents having accumulated to a sufficient sum, the trustees purchased the house in Penny-street, for the master to reside in, rent free, and erected the school behind; they have appointed the masters from time to time, and within a few years raised the salaries to £80. for the master, and £60. the assistant; but no person had been gratuitously educated in pursuance of the founder's bequest. The farm is now let on lease at the rent of £200. per annum.

Twenty years since, several public-spirited inhabitants instituted a suit in Chancery, to enforce a fulfilment of the founder's intent.

The affair was referred to one of the Masters of the Court. The trustees contended that the founder's intention was merely to provide a school and masters; but that, nevertheless, the scholars were to be instructed at their own expense.

Decree of the High Court of Chancery :

"The children of resident inhabitants of the Borough of Portsmouth, or the children of persons who were resident inhabitants of the said Borough at the time of the birth of such children, in cases where the parents are dead, being the children of persons professing the Protestant religion; the boys to be educated gratuitously, shall be nominated by the Dean and Canons of Christ-church. No boy under the age of seven years shall be admitted a free scholar, or remain in it after the age of seventeen. All the boys shall be educated in the elements of Greek and Latin, and the principles of the Established Church. The hours of schooling shall not be fewer than six, and the recesses shall not be more than two in each year, one commencing on the Friday preceding Christmas, and the other on the Friday preceding the 21st of June, for one month each; and the holidays, one whole day, and the afternoon of one other day in each week. The superintending the said school shall be left to the direction of the Dean and Canons. All vacancies which shall happen by death or otherwise, among the said boys so appointed, shall be filled up by other boys, to be appointed in like manner, once in each and every year, that is to say, on some day in the first week in January in each and every year, notice being first given thereof—such notice to be in writing, and to specify the number of vacancies to be filled up, and fixed on the doors of the several parish churches within the Borough of Portsmouth, for the space of fourteen days at the least, before the day to be fixed for that purpose."

Trustees, the Dean and Canons of Christ-church, Oxford. *Head-Master*, Rev. R. H. Comyns, who was succeeded by Mr. Hazel. *Second-Master*, Edward Nayler.

The school-room is large and handsome; at each corner are busts of Homer, Cicero, Virgil, and Horace, and above the fireplace is a large ornamented stone slab, with this inscription:—

VERTUTI ET LITERIS SACRUM,
EX MUNIFICENTIA GULIELMI SMITH, M. D.
QUI OBIT XI DIE FEB. A.D. MDCCXXXII.

January, 1823—The Portsmouth Grammar-school, on Dr. Smith's foundation, re-opened, after a lapse of many years; Mr. Nayler appointed Second-Master: fifty boys appointed scholars by the Dean and Canons of Christ-church, Oxford, on the 15th instant. The Rev. Archdeacon Ball and Dr. Burton, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, as Canons of Christ-church, visitors of Dr. Smith's Charity School, directed that in future the Head-Master shall reside in the house, and that he shall not perform any parochial duty to draw his attention from the business of the school.

THE PORTSMOUTH THEATRE.

While Mr. Stephen Kemble was manager, a sailor applied to him on one of the nights when there was no performance

and entreated him to open the Theatre, but was informed that as the town had not been apprised on the occasion the manager could not risk the expense! What will be the expense? What will you open the house for tonight? it must be opened to-night, for to-morrow I leave for India and God knows if ever I shall see a play again. I will represent a tragedy for five guineas! well said the sailor, agreed, I will give it, upon this condition, that you let nobody into the Play-house but myself. What play do you choose? Richard the Third. The house was accordingly prepared, the actors attended and the tar took his place in the front row of the pit. Mr. Kemble played Richard himself. The play was represented throughout, for the sailor brought a book with him and was very attentive, sometimes applauding, often laughing, but always on the look-out, lest some other auditor might intrude upon his enjoyment. He retired perfectly satisfied and cordially thanked the manager for his ready compliance.

The original theatre was in St. Mary-street, opposite Crown-street. It was afterwards in the High-street, four doors above the Unitarian Chapel. The first regular establishment was formed by Mattocks the singer; and the company consisted of Mrs. Mattocks, Mrs. Kennedy, Whitfield, Booth, Wheeler, Perry, Townshend, &c.--the latter a student at Dublin college. In 1771, 1774, the following were the names of the actresses, and their salaries per week: Mesdames Didier, Pott, Ward, Williams, Milledge, and Pyne, and Miss Sherman, each at one pound seven; Mrs. Vidini a dancer at the same salary; Mrs. Marr at a guinea; Mrs. Hantry at fifteen shillings, and three dressers, viz. Mesdames, Burgay, Mathews and Littlater at four and sixpence each!!

Lord Chatham used to visit this place of amusement in 1778. At the close of the American war, was opened a Sadler's Wells at the White Swan, in opposition to the regular theatre. This was for a time very successful; and innumerable were the papers, letters, paragraphs, &c. published by the partizans of each establishment. We possess some curious caricatures relative to this theatrical warfare, in which Luke Taswell, Esq. an eminent surgeon and a fine scholar, and, (I believe,) a relation of Taswell the dresser at Drury-lane in the days of Garrick, deigned to devote his talents to the support of the legitimate drama, publishing a kind of journal in favour of Mr. Wheeler, the manager. The regular theatre was then removed to its present situation, under the management of Messrs. Wheeler and Davis, and on the death of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler in 1794, was purchased by T. Collins, Esq. who amassed

by this speculation a large fortune, and about 1800, enlarged the house by the erection of a gallery. So great was the public estimation of Mr. Collins, that in consequence of being informed against by a person in Salisbury, at the time the company performed in that city, Earl Radnor, in the House of Lords, and Mr. Hussey, in the House of Commons, became so much his champions as to be the chief causes of that law passing which emancipates the stage from its former restrictions.

Mr. Collins conducted the Theatre with great spirit, producing the new plays as soon as their first run. How well he managed may be judged of, from the following quotation from Mr. Dibdin's *Observations of a Tour through England*.

"I must not take leave of Portsmouth without doing justice on a subject which I had mistaken, as well as others. I own I always dreaded to occupy the Theatre there, for I had conceived that, in a sea-port, where it cannot be but that vice and infamy must be found, a play-house would of course exhibit every sort of riot and quarrelling. I never was so much mistaken in my life. An assembly-room, regulated by a master of the ceremonies, could not be better conducted. It is true prostitutes were seen there in plenty, but there was a place set apart for them, where they were obliged to conform to rules and orders or be turned out. They did not dare to bar up the lobbies and insult modest women. Better discipline never was observed. They were permitted to be happy as long as their conduct was inoffensive, and so good an effect had this wholesome established regulation on their conduct, that if I may judge by what I myself witnessed, there is more barefaced profligate indecency practised at Drury-lane or Covent-Garden Theatre in an evening, than at Portsmouth Theatre in a season."

After the death of Mr. Collins the property passed into the hands of the theatrical triumvirate, Messrs. Kelly, Maxfield, and Collins, by whom it was managed for forty years with various success. They engaged the first actors and actresses in the kingdom, and during this period the following circumstances occurred. 1805, August 5. The Comedians wish to be instructed in military exercises, and offer their services to the King.

1812, January. A lad killed in the theatre by falling into the pit from the one shilling gallery.

1824, April. A new melo-dramatic play, called "Haroun Alompra," (from the pen of Mr. Henry Slight) produced at this Theatre with great magnificence of decoration and costume; and

was received with applause. The following is the advertisement.

On Monday evening April 19, 1824, will be presented (first time) and for this night only, an entire new splendid historical melo-drama, founded on fact, in three acts, called *Haroun Alompra, the Hunter Chief*, or, *The Conquest of Siam*. The prologue to be spoken by Mrs. Davies. After which the admired farces of *Love Laughs at Locksmiths*, and *A Rowland for an Oliver*.

By degrees the Theatre fell into (1828) ruin and delapidation, as may be judged of by the following description: "we find our Theatre will be open in a few days. We are surprised at this; we were assured, that unless the whole of the interior was remodelled and repaired, it would not be decent to ask an audience to visit it, and yet our managers unblushingly invite the gentry of this town and neighbourhood to attend it in the disgraceful state as that in which it was when it closed last season, with the exception we believe of the interior being white-washed. It will be advisable for all ladies who intend to witness the performance of Madame Vestris, to be cautious, lest they injure their dresses, to be well wrapped in fur, and to take the precaution of having a servant to hold an umbrella over them."

In 1830, the house was bought by Mr. T. Owen, who built the saloon, but did not improve the house for dramatic purposes. This gentleman let the Theatre to Mr. Hollingsworth of Southsea, who not being able to obtain a license, it reverted to the hands of Mr. Maxfield, and was by him managed till 1836, when it was closed for want of support. The following was the concluding play of this management.

Last night of the season. For the benefit of Mr. Maxfield. On Monday evening, June 6th, 1836, will be presented, the first time at this Theatre, the new spectacle of *The Jewess!* concerto on the Violin by Mr. Thom, an admired dance, Miss. Parker; comic song Mr. Floyer. After which will be presented for the first time in this Theatre, the drama, called the *Dream at Sea!*

If the history of Mr. Collins be memorable for the emancipation of the stage from unnecessary restriction; that of Messrs Kelly and Maxfield is so for this reason: the purchase of a copy of the "Rent Day," without the author's authority by these gentlemen, led to the passing of "the dramatic authors' bill;" and these gentlemen were also the first persons fined for infringing the enactments of the act, by playing the Rent Day without the author's permission.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTION

In 1815, Mr. Stebbing directed his attention to the formation of a Philosophical society, and by the assistance of several scientific men, succeeded in establishing meetings at his own residence, No. 69, High-street, thereby becoming the founder of the present "Portsmouth and Portsea Literary and Philosophical Society." In 1816 Dr. Porter delivered the introductory lecture, and for a long period Mr. Stebbing furnished apparatus, with every necessary, and bore the greater part of the expenses. It was not a regularly organised society until the 5th of February, 1818. From this period, until October the 6th, 1820, meetings were held, and occasional lectures delivered, and on October 20, 1820, the society held their first meeting at the old Town-hall; and on the 7th of December, 1821, again removed to Pembroke-street.

This society is governed by a President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Curators of apparatus and museum, and a Committee of twenty-four, annually elected. Lectures are delivered, or papers on scientific subjects read, every Friday evening from October to March, from seven till nine o'clock. The annual meeting is held on the first Friday in July. The admission fee to members (who are elected by ballot) is one guinea, besides one guinea annual subscription; and for the accommodation of visitors to the town, subscribers are also admitted (by ballot) at half a guinea per annum, who have no other privilege than attendance at the public meetings of the society. Each member is allowed a ticket of admission for a friend.

"January, 1826. Mr. Lane, the artist, most handsomely presented to the Literary and Philosophical society, one of the happiest productions of his pencil, in a portrait of Dr. John Porter, the first President." This picture now hangs in the library.

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the above institution, in St. Mary-street, took place on Monday, June the 29th, 1829.

On the day of the spectacle, St. Mary's-street presented an appearance of bustle and activity. Flags were displayed at the several corners of the paleing surrounding the area. The upper partition of the Foundation Stone was slung above its destined place. A space was railed off for the accommodation of the Corporation and the Members, with an elevated platform for the Mayor and other persons more particularly engaged in the proceeding, while every spot that could command even a bird's eye

view of the ceremony, was eagerly occupied by spectators. The Corporation in costume, attended by the mace-bearer and other officers, arrived at two o'clock, and being arranged, the President then delivered to the Mayor a fine Coronation Medal in bronze, together with the silver and copper coins of his majesty's reign, in the finest possible state of preservation, most liberally presented for the occasion by George Grant, jun., Esq.; the Reports of the Society for several years past, the HAMPSHIRE TELEGRAPH newspaper for the last week, with sundry other documents: the whole were placed in a tube of lead, closely soldered up by workmen on the spot, and finally deposited in a deep cavity in the place whereon the foundation Stone was to be laid. The Mayor then received the trowel from the builder, and proceeded to the masonic labour of fixing the stone, first spreading the mortar on the upper surface of the one in which the coins, &c. were deposited. The upper stone was then gradually lowered, being guided by the builder and his assistants, the band playing the National Anthem, and the bells of St. Thomas's Church (on a given signal) marking, by "their deep-toned music," the interesting moment. When finally adjusted, the Mayor struck it several times with a mallet, and ascertained the accuracy of its situation, by placing a level on the top of the East end, and at each other corner, from North to South, passing on each side. The Mace of the Borough of Portsmouth was then placed across it—the Foundation Stone of the Institution was declared to be firmly and properly laid, and three hearty cheers broke forth from the Members and the surrounding assembly.

The Mayor then briefly addressed the meeting, at the conclusion of which, the Rev. C. B. Henville, Vicar of Portsmouth, pronounced an eloquent and appropriate Benediction, and the procession then returned to the Town Hall.

The portion of the site on which the portico of the new building stands, with the principal entrance, being six feet wide, is leasehold, together with other property of greater value and extent from the Corporation of Portsmouth, for 1000 years, from the 25th of March, 1723. viz. "All that piece of ground adjoining to part of the said garden and other land there, now and for many years past in the occupation of the said Commissioners, scituate, lying, and being in the street commonly called St. Thomas-street, in Portsmouth aforesaid, containing in length 70 foot, and wears off to a point at 45 foot long, eastward; and in breadth, next and adjoining to the porch of Elizabeth Young, widow, some-

time Carters, and formerly Vinings, three foot and four inches, as the said piece of ground is now bounded and set out." The same was assigned to the purchasers rent free.

The remainder of the site on which the Institution is erected was formerly the "Queenes Cooperadge," and was sold as freehold, under the Acts of the 1st and 2nd Geo. IV. chap. 93: under the 6th section of which quiet possession of the premises was effectually secured. In 1724, buildings were erected on it for the Victualling Department, and of late the stores were used as a depository for cheese—the land was sold in lots on Wednesday the 17th of September, 1828, by Mr. Hoggart, and the two pieces extending in depth 116 feet, or thereabouts, realized about £465. The Society purchased 68ft. 4in. in depth, 35ft. in breadth in the front, and 41ft. 10in. at the back part, and 72ft. 4in. at the other side, from Mr. Atfield, for the sum of 400*l*. The land has been conveyed to Trustees. The building contains a lecture room, 44 feet by 27 (capable of accommodating 300 persons); a museum (lighted from above), 60 feet by 27; a library and reading room, of fine proportions; together with apartments for the preparations of subjects for the museum; the expense of which, including the purchase of the land, was £2000.

On the day following the ceremony, a workman passing with a wheelbarrow across the space on which the Marine Band were stationed, and which had been crowded with spectators, found the earth give way beneath his feet: on examination, a Well of great depth, and twenty feet in circumference, was discovered, the existence of which had previously been unknown. This was the Well originally used for the supply of the King's Slaughter-house, which occupied the situation of the store under which it was found.

GREEN-ROW ROOMS.

In Green-row, Portsmouth, is the Portsmouth Institution, or Green-row rooms, erected in 1812 by subscription. This noble building consists of large ball and card-rooms, elegantly fitted with cut-glass gas chandeliers, and painted and decorated in a neat syle. During the winter, assemblies and balls are held here. The rooms below are appropriated as a charity-school for the education of near three hundred children. On the front appear two niches, containing figures of charity children, and above, the following inscription, explanatory of its object: "Erected, 1812. Portsmouth Institution for the education of Children on the plan of the Rev. Dr. Bell, and in the principles of the Established

Church." A liberal subscription is yearly made, and the rental of the ball-room appropriated to the same charitable purpose, after paying the current expenses of the building.

BANQUET TO THE LORD HIGH ADMIRAL.

August, 1827. One of the most splendid, costly, and superb banquets ever witnessed in this, and rarely surpassed in any other town, was given to his Royal Highness by Daniel Howard, Esq. and the Corporate body. His Royal Highness landed under salutes from the shipping and the garrison at five minutes after seven, and proceeded in company with the naval and military officers to the banquet prepared at the Green-row assembly-rooms. A salute of twenty-one guns from the immense cannon on the King's bastion, announced the period when his Majesty's health was drunk, which was repeated on the toast of his Royal Highness's health, and likewise on his leaving the shore at eleven o'clock. The effect produced by the discharge of these noble cannon at this dead hour of the night, was magnificent beyond description.

During one of the ducal visits, one of those tremendous cannon on the King's bastion accidentally went off during the act of reloading, by which a fine young artillery-man at the cannon's mouth was killed almost instantly, both his arms being torn away, and otherwise dreadfully mangled; while a second was severely wounded, his left hand torn off, which rendered immediate amputation above the elbow necessary, and his breast much lacerated; several other men were seriously hurt. All died in a few months from the effects of the explosion.

Asylum for the Poor. That belonging to the parish of Portsmouth, situate in Warblington-street, erected in 1719, is confined and ruinous. Proposals were made by the Board of Ordnance to change this site for that of the Artillery Barracks at Halfway Houses; Government wanted 600*l.* and the house in exchange; the parish offered 400*l.* It was proposed in 1801, to build a new house. The present House was erected by subscription, a list of which is in one of the rooms. 1804. John Merchant Bulkeley, Esq. of Lisbon, left by will to the poor-house of Portsmouth parish, 100*l.*: it was expended in building sick rooms. The poor are maintained by a rate of 7*s.* or 7*s.* 6*d.* in the pound; and these rates were very oppressive, being increased by the passing of the wives of soldiers and sailors to their homes; but the parish is now in an union with Portsea.

By a return made to the Bishop of the Diocese, it appears the

Rental of the Property in Portsmouth, is 17,091*l.* of which sum at least 5000*l.* does not contribute to the Poors' Rate.

Replies submitted by the Overseers of the Parish of Portsmouth, as applicable to so much of the parish as is within the Lines or Fortifications, to Commissioners (Messrs. Pringle and Lennard),

1.—*Poor Rates.* The average amount of the Poor Rates per £, per annum for the year ending 25th March, 1833, was 11 Rates; 25th March, 1834, 13 Rates; 25th March, 1835, 12 Rates.—In three years 36 Rates, being an average of 12 for each year, at 6*d.* in the pound—6*s.* The above should rather be called a Rate for general purposes, as from it is paid the amount of the Gaol Precepts, together with all charges arising from Inquests, Committal of Vagrants and Disorderly Persons; publication of Revised Lists under the Reform Bill, &c. Indeed, it is a Municipal as well as a Poor Rate, more than one-sixth being for other purposes than paying the Poor. Of the real value of the assessments made, the proportion was nominally at two-thirds, but actually at less than one half on the whole amount of property, about 15,500*l.* the amount of Poor-rates annually collected from the property, land excepted, on the average of three years 1833-34-35, is 3907*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* the amount annually collected from land, is 68*l.* 16*s.*

11 *Houses.*—Inhabited and rated; 601 actually paying Rates. Of these there are of each as under:—

Under £5.	53
5 <i>l.</i> and under 10 <i>l.</i>	139
10 20	236
20 30	106
30 40	37
40 50	14
50 and upwards	16—601

Number of Houses void 66, number not rated, or rated and excused payment of Rates, 449.

111. *Number of all other Ratings not Houses or Land.*—209 Bonding Vaults, Stores, Breweries, Theatre, Wharfs, Market-house, Timber Pounds, Stables, Billiard Rooms, Manufactories, Coal Yards, &c.

IV. *Persons.*—Number of, rated for Houses, Counting-houses, Warehouses, and Shops, who have not been excused payment on account of poverty, 623.

The Parish of Portsmouth, in the year 1816, paid 3,696*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* including 1,348*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* for out-door relief. Since 1814, the amounts expended were as follows:

1825	£3,860	6	8	.....	Out-door	£1,687	4	10
1826	3,521	6	8	.....		1,710	6	6
1827	4,007	6	0	.....		1,721	18	2
1828	3,255	19	6	.....		1,577	17	10
*1829	3,572	11	6	.....		1,967	12	5
*1830	4,039	15	3	.....		1,718	8	3
*1831	3,769	13	6	.....		1,808	10	6
*1832	3,761	15	0	.....		2,077	4	11
*1833	3,701	8	9	.....		2,426	6	10
*1834	4,215	5	9	.....		2,586	18	4

* Including advances made to Paupers on account of other parishes.

It appears that the amount of rates collected, last year, in Portsmouth, with a population of 7,000 persons, was 4215*l.* with 2586*l.* out-door relief.

ALMS HOUSE, ST. MARY-STREET, PORTSMOUTH.

This Alms House and School-room were built A.D. 1831, by the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Portsmouth. The

Rev. C. B. Henville, Vicar ; Mr. William George Wilson, Mr. William Love, Churchwardens ; Mr. Andrew Nance, Mr. William Henry Palmer, Sidesmen.

The old Alms-house in Penny-street being required, under the act of Parliament, for enlarging the borough gaol, and the purchase money, by agreement, six hundred and fifty pounds, being paid for the purchase of the site and the building of the new alms-house, the inhabitants were invited to contribute, by a voluntary subscription, towards defraying the expenses of the new building. The ground, being part of the old victualling-office on which these buildings are erected, measuring forty feet in front, and in depth seventy feet, was purchased of Mr. Benjamin Bramble for the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds. The estimate for the building, &c. was as follows :—For the Alms-house, containing ten rooms for the habitation of aged women, five hundred pounds ; for the school-room, one hundred and three pounds, making altogether the sum of eight hundred and eighty-three pounds. The elevation is in the Gothic style of architecture.

By whom the old alms-house in Penny-street was founded is lost in oblivion, the earliest record now extant, being the register of the funeral of a person who was buried from thence, Anno Domini One Thousand Sixteen Hundred and Fifty-five.

As vacancies occur, they have been, from time immemorial, filled by the nomination of the Minister and Churchwardens.

THE SAVINGS BANK.

For several years the business of this establishment was conducted in the old Town-hall, but in 1837, the Directors having in their hands a sum of nine hundred pounds, determined on erecting the present neat building on part of the garden formerly attached to the residence of the Agent Victualler in St. Thomas-street. The elevation is from a design of T. E. Owen, Esq. and the builder was Mr. Hendy. It contains all the offices necessary for the business of the bank.

THE
ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY
OF
PORTSMOUTH.



BY
HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.

PORTSMOUTH:
SOLD BY THE BOOKSELLERS.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF PORTSMOUTH.

Churches of the Established Religion—Conventual Grants—Religious Houses—Foundations, Alterations and Endowments—The Dissenting Chapels of every Denomination, Biographical Notices of their Ministers.

Deed between the Prior of Southwick and the Vicar of Portsmouth relative to the Tithes of the Town ; 1260.

“To all the faithful in Christ by whom these letters shall be seen or heard, Master Thomas of Winchester sends eternal health in the Lord. We decide between the ecclesiastics, the Prior and Convent of Southwick, patrons of the Chapel of Portsmouth and Rectors, on the one part, and Thomas de Singleton, perpetual Vicar of the said chapel, on the other part, after this manner, with the unanimous consent of both parties : to wit, It is ordained that the aforesaid vicar shall fully enjoy all the oblations and obventions appertaining and belonging to the said chapel, of whatsoever kind they may be, with mortuaries and offerings belonging to the same, together with the small tithes of flax or vegetables, and all others arising within the town of Portsmouth, as the preceding vicar was accustomed to receive ; but for the tithes of every kind of corn, the said vicar shall pay annually, at the termination of each quarter of the year hereafter mentioned, the sum of one hundred shillings sterling : to wit, at the feast of All Saints twenty shillings ; at the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin twenty shillings, at the feast of the Passover forty shillings, and at the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin twenty shillings. And when the said prior and convent shall have placed the books, and put the ornaments and decorations of the said chapel in a fit and proper state of repair, the said vicar shall maintain in the aforesaid proper state the said chapel with all contingent burthens as well in the services as in others ordinary and extraordinary ; and all the future vicars for the time being shall do in like manner : and the said vicar and his successors shall have a glebe-house in the town of Portsmouth to dwell in, except a certain space on the north part of the said glebe-house enclosed with a wall, and reserved to the said prior and convent. And this ordnance, made public, established, confirmed, and rendered irrevocable for ever by common consent, is strengthened and rendered more effectual by the alternately attached seals of each of the said parties. Made in the year of our Lord one thousand two hundred and sixty, and the third day of May.”

ENDOWMENT OF THE PARISH AND VICARAGE OF PORTSMOUTH.

“To all the sons of holy mother church to whom the knowledge of this writing shall come, William by the divine mercy Lord Bishop of Winchester, sends eternal health in the Lord. Be it known that we have carefully read and with due deliberation inspected a certain public deed, concerning certain matters by compensation and agreement between the ecclesiastic, Edward

Prior of the priory or Conventual Church of Southwick, of the holy order of Saint Augustine, and the Convent of the same place, impropiators of the parish church of Portsmouth, in our diocese of Winchester, on the one part, and Master John Tone, perpetual Vicar of the said parish church of Portsmouth on the other, duly executed and sealed by the seal and subscription of John Marham by apostolic authority public notary, sealed and confirmed by us according to the tenor of the following words: In the name of the Lord Amen By this present public instrument be it clearly made manifest to all, that in the year from the Incarnation of our Lord one thousand four hundred and fifty-four, and in the second elevation and the eighth year of the pontificate of our most serene father in Christ, and our Lord, Lord Nicholas the Fifth, by divine providence Pope, and on the twenty-fourth day of April, in the chapter-house of the priory or conventual church of Southwick in the diocese of Winchester, and in the presence of my public notary subscribed, and the underwritten witnesses, specially appointed venerable men, brother Edward, prior of the priory or conventual Church of Southwick aforesaid, and many other canons of the said conventual church, in the same place, for the underwritten purpose, as they have affirmed, assembled in and holding a chapter, impropiators of the parish church of Portsmouth in our said diocese of Winchester, and Master John Tone, perpetual vicar, as he hath affirmed, of the parish church of Portsmouth aforesaid, publicly declared and recited upon what occasion of withholding or non-payment of a certain annual sum of a hundred shillings to be paid yearly to the aforesaid ecclesiastics by the said vicar of the church, as the said ecclesiastics have asserted, and also on pretext of the repairing of the chancel, and for the support of all other burthens ordinary and extraordinary, of the parish church of Portsmouth aforesaid, pertaining to the vicar of the said church whosoever he may be for the time being, as the said ecclesiastics have also affirmed, and there arose between the parties great matter of doubt, and furthermore they asserted that by the mediation of the friends of the aforesaid parties this dispute and doubt was set at rest between the same, and the said parties, notwithstanding any composition whatsoever previously made between the predecessors of the said parties of and concerning the aforesaid matter, have agreed and settled in the manner following, viz.—that the aforesaid John Tone, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Portsmouth aforesaid, and every and each his successors, vicars hereafter of the said church, should fully enjoy all the oblations and obventions to the church of whatsoever kind they may be, with the mortuaries and legacies appertaining to it, and also all the small tithes of (linorum et canaborum) flax or vegetables arising within the same town and parish, and all other things as his predecessors were accustomed to enjoy, except the tithes of every kind of corn, (bladi,) which the said ecclesiastics and all and each of their successors will enjoy for ever, with the exception, also, and reservation to the said religious men, and to all and each of their successors, of a certain annual pension of twenty shillings, (solidorum) arising annually from ‘God’s House’ at Portsmouth, which sum of twenty shillings the said ecclesiastics, and all and each of their successors, shall receive and enjoy for ever; and also that the said John Tone, the aforesaid vicar, and all and each of his successors, vicars hereafter of the said church, be not bound in future for the payment of the said sum of one hundred shillings, of which mention is before made, but that the said John, the aforesaid vicar, and all and each of his successors, vicars hereafter of the said church, shall be unmolested, free, and exempt from rendering of payment of the said sum of one hundred shillings, to be paid to the said ecclesiastics for ever; also that the said John Tone, the aforesaid vicar, and all his successors vicars hereafter of the aforesaid church of Portsmouth, shall repair and maintain for ever the chancel of the said church, in all its erections, windows, glass, and other things thereunto appertaining, at their own cost and expense for ever, along with the other burdens belonging to the said church of Portsmouth, as well in the services and all other burdens, both ordinary and extraordinary. Also the said John, vicar, and all and each his successor vicars hereafter, shall have a glebe-house in the town of Portsmouth for an habitation, in the same manner and form as the present vicar and his predecessors have hitherto inhabited. Moreover the aforesaid parties at that time in the same place, pro-

mised that they, as soon as they should be conveniently able, will procure, as far as is in them and belongs to them, that this said composition and agreement should be approved, confirmed, perpetuated, and rendered effectual by the authority of the reverend father in Christ, and our Lord, Lord William, by the grace of God, Bishop of Winchester. These presents were executed as they are written and recited above, in the year of our Lord, in the pontificate, and in the month, day, and place aforesaid, in the presence (at that time and in that place) of the discreet men, Robert Edyngdon, chaplain, and John Rowland, literate, of Salisbury and Chichester, specially invited and requested to be witnesses to the aforesaid matters. And I John Marham, clerk of the diocese of Chichester, by apostolic authority, Notary Public, was present to all and each of the aforesaid presents whilst they were transacting and doing so as is premised, in the year of our Lord, in the pontificate, month, day, and year aforesaid, together with the aforesaid witnesses, and all and each of them, I saw and heard so done, wrote, published, and reduced to this public form, and with my usual and customary seal, being asked and required, sealed to the faith and testimony of all and each of the aforesaid premises. Which aforesaid composition and agreement, we, William, by Divine grace Bishop of Winchester, at the earnest petition of the aforesaid parties, ratify, and also approve and confirm by our pontifical authority, and have decreed that henceforth, for ever, they should have all weight, strength, and confirmation.

"Specially reserving to ourselves, and to our successors, the power of regulating, altering, subtracting from, and adding to the aforesaid composition and agreement, when just and lawful reason shall require it.

"In testimony of which our seal is attached to this deed Given in our manor of Southwick, in the twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand four hundred and fifty-four, and in the seventh year of our consecration.

"W. WINTON."

After the dissolution of the Monastery of Southwick, the Rectories of Portsmouth and Portsea, with the tithes of corn and grain of the whole Island of Portsea, including the hamlet of Hilsea within Portsbridge, together with the Advowsons of the Vicarages of Portsmouth and Portsea, were granted, on the 12th of July, in the 35th year of the reign of Henry VIII. to the Warden and Scholars, Clerks of St. Mary's College, near Winchester, for ever. The lease of the tithes, and of the manor farm of Stubbington, is held under the College. The whole of the above property was previously part of the large possessions of the Priory and Convent of Southwick.—*Vicarial Records.*

THE CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS.

In the centre of the town of Portsmouth stands the parish church, erected between 1210-20, at the instance of Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winton, and dedicated to St. Thomas. It is in the form of a Latin cross; the nave is adorned with eight Doric pillars, supporting circular arches; the two connecting the transepts being larger and higher than the others. The arched roof is decorated with bold and elegant cornices. On the centre of the larger arches appear shields, one bearing the date 1693, the other the initials M. T. B.; and on the one in front of the chancel the Portsmouth arms, above which is a large painting of the arms of William and

Mary. The northern transept retains traces of the ancient Saxon arches, both on the walls and in the disposition of the windows; it is also much larger than the southern, and was not disturbed in the great alterations in 1692. Over the internal doors is the regal emblazonment; and below, a small coat of arms, blue and red, with six figures of foreign birds.

THE REFORMATION IN PORTSMOUTH.

Dr. Ridley having in his lent sermon, preached against the superstition that was generally had to images, it raised a great heat over England so that Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, hearing that on May day, the people of Portsmouth had removed and broken the images of Christ and the saints, wrote about it with great warmth to one Captain Vaughan that waited on the protector and was then at Portsmouth; he desired to know whether he should send one to preach against it, though he thought it was like casting precious stones to hogs or worse than hogs as where these Lollards.*

In 1690 the church underwent a complete change, the body, nave, and tower being pulled down, and the two former rebuilt under the auspices of Ambrose Stanyford, Esq. on whose sepulchral stone, in one of the side aisles, the circumstance is commemorated;—"Beneath this stone lyes the earthly remains of Ambrose Stanyford, Esq. who by the good providence of God, was the happy instrument of contriving, framing, and finishing the inside beauty of this house, for the glory of God, and to the comfort of his people assembled here to his worship."

REBUILDING OF THE NAVE OF THE CHURCH.

Particulars relative to the re-building and repairs in the years 1691 to 1694, from an old vestry book. In 1691, two double poor books were granted to the Churchwardens, and they were empowered to "contract with John Michell (who was then building y body of y church), to bring down y twoe old pillars whych were under y old tower and sett up new pillars in their places and compleat divers works in the north and south isles and to pay him twoe hundred pounds in ffour payments." In 1692 John Michell declared himself incapable of carrying on the works, and gave up his contract to the Trustees of the parrish, and Mr. Ambrose Stanyford (seeing the work is wholly at a stand, and never like to be finished according to the old contract), was authorised to undertake the finishing with all convenient speed. In the

* These letters are in Fox's Acts and Monuments, Edward vj.

following year a *new rate* was agreed upon, and towards the re-building and repairing the parish church every inhabitant shall be assessed to the said rate at *six tymes the sum* that he, she, or they, were rated to the last poor book, and Mr. Ambrose Stanyford shall goe forward in the finishing the church, and the parish shall be obliged to pay him what shall be due, and the money shall be raised by rate. After some time, dissatisfaction arose, and Mr. Henry Maydman was authorized by the inhabitants meeting in God's-house Chapell, the then pro-parish church, to superintend the disbursements of the monies raised, and to keep a strict account in a book. And in 1694 to pay y debts upon account of the church it was agreed, "that a book of rates shall be made, which shall amount unto and comprise six poor-books after the rate of the said parrish." "Our parish church is become a beauteous structure, I heartily wish I could see the chancel answer it."*

With the exception of the flat ceiling, which was added at the time of the other repairs, the chancel appears much in its original state; it consists of a large centre and two small aisles, divided by ten Saxon pillars, with pilasters in the side walls, no two of which correspond, some being foliated, some adorned with lozenges, some having square, and others rounded capitals. Two of the pillars on which the original square tower rested still remain, affording beautiful examples of the clustered style. From the chancel-pillars spring arches in the pointed form of architecture, consisting of clustered ribs, while every second pillar is connected by the rib of a large circular archway in the walls; between these last-mentioned arches project foliated corbels, the centre one supported on two figures of monks' heads, with cowls on, and the hands elevated, the countenances expressive of pain. From the corbels rise elegant clustered pilasters with square capitals; and from traces still discernable in the walls, the upper part was adorned with large circular arches, and the clustered pilasters supported the groining of the ancient roof, at which time the circular, or St. Catharine's window, at the eastern end, was visible. The great window, and those on each side, are ornamented with pillars and pilasters corresponding with those below. The walls of the chancel above the arches are double, with a passage all round the church: this has been closed up (1817). In an engraving published by the Society of Antiquaries, the church of St. Thomas appears as a cluster of monastic buildings, with turrets at the corners, and the square tower in the centre, (we have no doubt

* MSS. of Thomas Heather, December 10, 1694.

the turrets still existing at the southern transept, are those of the ancient building).

DIMENSIONS OF ST. THOMAS' CHURCH.

Portsmouth Church is in length in the inside, from the east end to the great doors of the west end, 112 feet, from those doors to the outside of the porch 27 feet, in the whole 139 feet, and in breadth in the inside of the cross isle or from the end of the north gallery to the end of the south 82 feet in breadth, in the inside of the nave or body 54 feet. Measured by G. Huish, 7th of August, 1752.

ASSASSINATION OF VILLIERS, DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

My Lord of Cleveland, who had but newly turned his back from the duke, and was so near that he heard the thump, and a Scottish-man, a bishop of Ireland, who was at Portsmouth, affirm that when Felton gave the blow he said "God have mercy on thy soul!"

"Maddam,—I am to trouble your grace with a most lamentable relation. This day betwixt nine and ten of the clock in the morning, the Duke of Buckingham then comming out of a parlor into a hall to goe to his coach, and soe to the King, (who was four miles off) having about him diverse Lords, Colonels, and Captains, and many of his owne servants, was by one Felton slain at one blow, with a dagger-knife. In his staggering he turned about, uttering onely this word, 'Villiane!' and never spake word more, but presently plucking out the knife from himselfe before he fell to the ground, hee made towards the traytor two or three paces, and then fell against a table, although he were upheld by diverse that were neere him, that [through the villaine's close carriage in the act] could not perceiue him hurt at all, but guess'd him to be suddenly oversway'd with some apoplexie, till they saw the blood come gushing from his mouth and the wound soe fast, that life and breath at once left his begored body. Maddam, you may easily guesse what outcries wers then made by us, that were commanders and officers there present, when wee saw him thus dead in a moment, and slaine by an unknowne hand. In the mean time Felton passed the throng which was confusedly great, not soe much as mark'd or followed, in soe much that not knowing where, nor who he was that done the fact, some came to keep guard the gates, and others went to the ramparts of the towne, in all which tyme the villiane was standing in the kitchen of the same house; and after the enquiry made by a multitude of captaines and gentlemen then pressing into the house

and court, and crying out amaine, ‘Where is the villiane?’ ‘Where is the butcher?’ hee most audaciously and resolutely drawing forth his sword, came out and went amongst them saying boldly, ‘I am the man, heere I am:’ upon which divers drew upon him, with intent to have then dispatcht him; but Sir Thomas Morton, myselfe, and some others, used such means (though with much trouble and difficulty) that we drew him out of their hands; and by order of my Lord High Chamberlaine, we had the charge of keeping him un’till a guard of musketeers were brought, to convey him to the Governor’s house, where we were discharged. My Lord High Chamberlaine and Mr. Secretary Cooke were then at the Governor’s house, did there take his examination, of which as yet there is nothing knowne; onely whilst he was in our custody I asked him several questions, to which he answered, viz. He sayd, he was a Protestant in religion; hee also expressed himselfe that he was partly discontented for want of eighty pounds pay which was due to him; and for that he being a Lieutenant of a company of foot, the company was given over his head unto another, and yet, hee sayd that that did not move him to this resolution, but that he reading the Remonstrance of the House of Parliament, it came into his mind, that in committing the act of killing the Duke, hee should do his country great good service. And hee sayd that to-morrow he was to be prayed for in London. I then asked him what church and to what purpose: hee told me at a church in Fleet-street Conduit, and, as for a man much discontented in mind. Now wee seeing things fall from him in this manner, suffered him not to be further questioned by any, thinking it much fitter for the Lords to examine him, and to finde it out, and knowe from him whether he was encouraged and sett on by any to performe this wicked deed. But to return to the screeches made att the fatal blow given,—the Duchesse of Buckingham and the Countesse of Anglesey came forth into a gallery which looked into the hall where they might behold the blood of their deerest lord gushing from him:—ah, poor ladies! such was their screeching, teares, and distrrections, that I never in my life heard the like before, and hope never to heare the like againe. His Maties grieffe for the losse of him was expressed to be more than great, by many teares hee hath shed for him, with which I will conclude this sad and untimely news. Felton had sewed a writing in the crowne of his hatt, half within the lyning, to shew the cause why hee putt this cruel act in execution; thinking he should have beene slaine in the place: and it was thus:

‘If I bee slaine, let no man condemne himselfe; it is for our sinns

that our harts are hardned, and become sencelesse, or else hee had not gone soe long unpunished. John Felton.'

'He is unworthy of the name of a gentleman, or soldier, in my opinion, that is afraid to sacrifice his life for the honor of God, his king, and his country. John Felton.'

"Maddam, this is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, yet all too much too, if it had so pleased God. I thought it my bounded duty, howsoever, to let your Matie have the first intelligence of it, by the hand of, Maddam, Your sorrowfull Servant, Dudley Carleton.

"To her Majesty the Queen."

The paper which was found in Felton's hat, and by which he was identified as the assassin of the Duke of Buckingham, is still preserved. Lady Evelyn, presented it to Mr. Upcott of London.

From a drawing it appears that on the site originally stood a lofty stone building, apparently a hall, which was the scene of the murder.

In a by-cutler's shop of Tower-hill, he (Felton) bought a ten-penny knife (so cheap was the instrument of this great attempt), and the sheath thereof he sewed to the lining of his pocket, that he might at any moment draw forth the blade alone with one hand, for he had maimed the other. This done, he made shift, partly it is said on horseback and partly on foot, to get to Portsmouth; for he was indigent and low in money, which perhaps might have a little edged his desperation. At Portsmouth, on Saturday, being the 23rd. of August of that current year, he pressed without any suspicion in such a time of so many pretenders to employment, into an inner chamber, where the duke was at breakfast accompanied with men of quality and action. Monsieur de Saubes and Sir Thomas Fryer: and there, a little before the duke's rising from the table, he went and stood, expecting till he should pass through a kind of lobby between that room and the next, where were divers attending him. Towards which passage, somewhat darker than the chamber which he voided; while the duke came with Sir Thomas Fryer close to his ear, in the very moment as the said knight withdrew himself from the duke, this assassinate gave him, with a back blow, a deep wound into his left side, leaving the knife in his body; which the duke himself pulling out, on a sudden effusion of spirits, he sunk down under the table in the next room, and immediately expired. Within the space of not not many minutes after the fall of the body and removal thereof into the first room, there was not a living creature in either of the chambers; The very horror of the fact had stupified all

curiosity. Thus died this great peer, in the 36th year of his age complete, and three days over, in a time of great recourse unto him and dependance upon him, the house and town full of servants and suitors ; his duchess in an upper room, scarce yet out of bed : and the court at that time six or nine miles from him, which had been the stage of his greatness.”*

It seldom fails to attract the attention of visitors, that a sepulchral monument should, as it were, form the altar-piece of this church, but so in fact it does—the memorial to the memory of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham. It consists of an urn in the centre, (said to contain his heart,) surmounted by a phoenix : below are two figures as large as life, on each side pyramids of armour, and above, the coronet and arms of the house of Buckingham, supported by angels ;

GEORGIO VILLERIO BUCKINGHAM. DUCI,
Qui Majoribus utrinq. clarissimis oriundus ; Patre
Georgio Villerio de Brooksby in comit.

Leicestr.

Milit. Matre Maria Beaumont Buckingham.

Comitissa ;

Cunctis naturæ fortunæq. Dotibus insignis
Duorum prudentissimorum Principum gratia,
suisqu. meritis

Vota suorum supergress. rerum gerendarum moli
Par, soli Invidiæ impar : dum exercitus iterum

In hostem

Parat, hoc in oppido, cædis immanissi. fatali arena,
novo cruoris & lachrimar. inundante oceano,

Nefaria perditissimi Sicarii manu

Percussus occubuit

Anno Domini 1628 mense Aug. die 23.

Viro ad omnia quæ maxima essent nato, ejusqu.

Et suis hic una confossis visceribus

Susanna Soror, Denbighiæ Comitissa

Cum Lachrymis et Luctu perpetuo p.

Anno Domini 1631.

Tu Viator, si qua tibi pietatis viscera, tam indignum

Tanti viri casum indignabundus geme

Et Vale.†

* Reliquiæ Wotten. 12mo. Lond. 1651.

† *A Translation*.—"To George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who from both parents, was most nobly descended ; his father was Sir George Villiers, of Brooksby, in the county of Leicester ; and his mother, Maria Beaumont, Countess of Buckingham. He enjoyed every distinguished gift of nature and fortune, with the favour of two most prudent princes. His merits surpassed even the wishes of all who knew him : he was equal to bear the mass of the most weighty affairs and only unequal to sustain the pressure of envy. Whilst he was preparing, in this town, his army to encounter the enemy again, a merciless slaughter—that inundated the fatal shore with a new ocean of blood and tears, caused him to fall by the atrocious hand of an accursed assassin, A.D. 1628, August 23. To this man, born to all that was great, and to his here buried remains, Susanna, his sister, Countess of Lerby, with tears and perpetual mourning, erected this monument, A.D. 1631.

Thou passenger, if possessing any bowels of compassion and indignation, lament the undeserved fate of such a man, "And farewell."

In front of the monument is the naval anchor. "George Villiers, who was appointed Lord High Admiral on the 30th of January, 1619, used for his badge an anchor, with the cable entwined, all Or."* The cable does not appear in this monument.—During the Revolution this monument was much defaced : it has of late time being perfectly restored.

On either side of this, and in the side aisles, are a great variety of marble monuments, more especially to the memories of Sir C. Blunt ; Sir H. Willoughby : the learned and pious vicar, Thomas Heather, whose portrait is still to be found in the libraries of the curious : who rebuilt the vicarage house at his own expense—much improved the Glebe lands, and, in his own words, left the vicarage much better than he found it. Mr. Burgess, vicar of the parish, "a wise and active man, who had distinguished himself by his zeal in effecting the restoration of Charles, and was rewarded by expulsion from his living, as was a clergyman of the name of Bragg, probably his curate, on the grounds of nonconformity. He lies buried in the chancel."

The following letter, on the subject of the above circumstance, is highly curious :—

"REVEREND SIRs,—The vicarage under your patronage becoming void by the profest nonconformity of Mr. Burgess ; we thought fitt not only to advertize you thereof but also have taken the boldness to desire you please to forbear presenting one to supply the vacancy, for a few days yet, in regard his Royal Highness the Duke of York (under whose particular government we are) hath promised a more than ordinary care in the recommendation of a person to supply this cure : from which kindness of his Royal Highness, we are in hopes to procure his letter of favour to yourselves in behalf of one Mr. Loton, an orthodox conformable minister who, besides the good opinion those of Deptford (where he lately was curate) have delivered of him, himself hath appeared here, and yesterday in our church with good applause of his abilities, as well from the garrison as Corporation, and all other peaceable and well-affected people. Mr. Williams, the bearer, being one of the churchwardens, comes express to give you more such further satisfaction herein as may be requisite, and to attend the honour of your answeare, for your humble servants,

John Timbrell, Mayor,

Hugh Salosbury, W. Holt, W. M. Michel,

Edward Archer, J. S. Stevenson, Ben. Johnson.

Portsmouth, 18 Aug. 1662.

In the chancel are escutcheons for various branches of the Buckingham, Percy, and Douglas families; and a marble slab to the memory of a Russian officer, with a Greek inscription. There are likewise many chaste mural monuments in the body of the church; that of Lake Allen, Esq. of the Inner Temple, a native of Portsmouth, author of an *Antiquarian History* of his native place, and many other pieces; he was a fine classical scholar, and possessed an extraordinary facility in the perusal of the various court-texts used in ancient deeds, charters, &c. His constitution was uncommonly delicate, and his figure small, and it was principally through the care of his grandfather, Lake Taswell, Esq. an eminent medical character, that he attained manhood. He was interred in St. Thomas's church yard, on the southern side of the chancel.

That of the Rev. George Cuthbert, chaplain to the King, &c. alderman, and several times mayor of this his native place. Mr. Cuthbert was much advanced in years, and had for a long time been in a very debilitated state of health. In earlier life he possessed much taste and execution as an amateur artist, and several of his pictures, at times, adorned the exhibition of the Royal Academy. He lies interred in the chancel of St. Thomas's church. Also a Monument to the memory of T. S. Shugar, Esq. who died during his Mayoralty.

MARRIAGE OF CHARLES THE SECOND.

In the register-book of this parish is preserved the marriage entry of Charles II. written on vellum, in the old English character, with gilt letters finely illuminated; it is quite clear and fresh, as when first written. In 1824 it was examined by the Duke and Duchess of Clarence, and a long train of nobility; a particular account of this visit was recorded in the books by Mr. Swan, then churchwarden. Their Highnesses were conducted through the Church by the Rev. C. B. Henville, the Vicar, and the several Officers of the Church, and were attended by Admiral Sir James H. Whitshed and family, Major-General Sir James Lyon, K.C.B. and many Officers of the Army and Navy:

“Our most gracious Sovereign Lord Charles the Second, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. and the most illustrious Princess Donna Catarina, Infanta of Portugal, daughter to the deceased Don Juan the Fourth, and sister to the present Don Alphonso, King of Portugal, were married at Portsmouth, upon Thursday, the two-and-twentieth day of May, in the year of our Lord God 1662, being in the fourteenth

year of His Majesty's reign; by the Right Rev. Father in God, Gilbert, Lord Bishop of London, Dean of His Majesty's Chapel Royal, in the presence of several of the Nobility of His Majesty's dominions and of Portugal."

The window over the altar was the gift of Mr. Henville and represents the Ascension in the centre, with the Virgin and child, and St. John on either side. The window is copied from several old windows, which were thought most likely to assimilate to the style of the building. The colours are good and brilliant, and the drawing and shading much more elaborate than any performance of the older masters. There was some hypercriticism at the time of its first erection, which gave rise to the following letter

To Mr. Edwards, Winchester.

SIR,—Respecting the Window lately erected in the Chancel of Portsmouth Church—I think it is but due to myself, and but common justice to you as the Artist to state, that I am satisfied with the execution of the design, which in the opinion of competent judges, entirely harmonizes, and is in accordance with the antiquity and character of the Building in which it stands.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

C. B. HENVILLE.

Portsmouth, 20th. November, 1828.

The font is very ancient, adorned with quatrefoils and coats of arms, or rather shields. In the possession of the Rev. C. B. Henville, is a magnificent architectural elevation of the interior of this church, taken from the rails of the altar, by Mr. Adams, and a Lithographic Print of the chancel has been published by Mr. H. Udsdale.

The church is matted throughout, warmed by stoves, and with the elegant arrangement of the chandeliers, reading-desks, &c. always commands admiration; above the pulpit, which has been lowered by the removal of a kind of wooden dome, is a large figure of an angel with a trumpet. During the last twenty-five years the interior of the church has been much improved and embellished by new chandeliers of large size and richly gilt, the seats and pews repaired; above those appropriated to the Corporation, is a very large sculpture of the British arms, with appropriate figures of angels supporting it. The galleries in the church were erected by subscription, and are still private property; and the fronts being rounded off instead of resting on the central pillars, renders the church very light, and has an elegant effect.

The organ, a remarkably fine instrument, was erected by subscrip-

tion, in 1718, as appears by the date in front, and from the subscription list written in letters of gold, still preserved in the gallery. The organ front is very highly adorned with gilding, and a large statue of David with his harp on the summit.

The subscription for this organ amounted to six hundred pounds, and it was opened with much solemnity ; a sermon being preached by Mr. Ward the Vicar, which sermon was repeated before the bishop of Winchester and printed. The publication of it called forth the talent of Mr. Norman the presbyterian minister, who preached against church music.

ST. THOMAS'S TOWER.

Over the entrance gate of the church, at the western front of the tower, is a bold sculpture, with the date 1691. Previous to the erection of the tower, a narrow buttress, at the corner of the southern transept, served for a belfry. It was opened a few years since, and was found to consist of a circular staircase, with two narrow passages to the summit. 1702, the inhabitants raised a cupola on the summit of the tower, which is now one hundred and twenty feet high ; in the lanthorn is a small bell, having on its side an armorial bearing, " Quarterly, a greyhound rampant, three castles turretted," which was formerly rung (by a man who sat constantly in the lanthorn) on the appearance of a ship in the offing. It is now used as a fire-bell. Above the lanthorn is most appropriately placed as a vane, a richly gilt ship, completely rigged, about six feet in length. It was erected in 1710, as appears from an inscription of the flag of the foremast, with the letters M : C : E :

DIMENSIONS OF THE SHIP ON THE TOWER.

The keel three feet long : from stem to stern three feet five inches : from stem to head four inches : in the waist eight inches wide : at the fore chains ten inches wide : the bowsprit one foot four inches : the fore mast two feet ten inches : mainmast three feet five inches : mizzen mast two feet ten inches : the ensign flag two feet two inches : the ship is of copper six feet nine inches long, from the bowsprit to the end of the ensign. It was taken down and regilt in May 1775.

In the dome is a small chamber, which is lighted by a number of small windows.

" From this giddy height (one hundred and twenty feet) a Mr. Murray once leaped, in a species of parashute ; he reached the

ground in safety, but was killed at Chichester Cathedral, in attempting a like feat of madness."

From this tower a Panoramic View is presented, equal to any in the kingdom. The trouble of mounting 200 steps will be amply repaid, especially if the tide be high in the harbour. A traveller from Italy witnessing the prospect, a few years since, exclaimed in extacy—*Venice ! Venice ! this is my own Venice !*

In the cupola is a very musical peal of eight bells; five were presented by Prince George of Denmark, at the particular request of Sir George Rook. They were removed from an old watch-tower in Dover Castle : and, after a short time, being recast, three more were added at the expense of the parish.

"The estimated expense of the seventh bell was 24*l.* The money actually paid 45*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* including 5*l.* to a professor of music for proving it to be well-toned. It is, however, considered by the fraternity of bell-ringers to be very defective.

INSCRIPTIONS AND DATES ON THE BELLS.

On the first, "Prosperity to all our benefactors, A. R. anno 1703 ;" on the second, "Peace and good neighbourhood, A. R. 1703 ;" on the third, "God save Queen Anne, A. R. 1703 ;" on the fourth, "I was cast by Joshua Kipling, in the year 1737, John Prior, William Snook, churchwardens ;" on the fifth, "Abra Rudhill, of Gloucester, cast us, 1703 ;" on the sixth, "God save our Queen, Prince, and fleet, Anno Domini, 1703 ;" on the seventh, "Thos. Mears, of London, 1794, William Butler and John Parker churchwardens ;" on the eighth bell, "W. Bartlett, R. Phelps, fecit, 1730, Messieurs James Yeatman and Nicholas Horwood churchwardens. We good people all, to prayers do call ; we honour to King, and brides joy do bring ; good tidings we tell, and ring the dead's knell." On a copper-plate in the framework is the following inscription : "The frame and hanging the bells and chimes were made by Samuel Shepherdson, of Spoonndon, nere Derby, James White, Samuel Henty, wardens, Anno Domini, 1703, of the same year." The clock (of large size) and the chimes were given by W. Brandon, Esq. 1703. In a part of the tower is a mutilated bust, said to be that of Charles the Second, taken from some part of the ancient church.

Previous to the erection of the dial plates of the clock, the windows of the belfry were much larger than at present. These plates were erected on April 1, 1789, by Mr. J. Irish, of Havant, at an expense of 58*l.* 8*s.* on the suggestion of Mr. Lang, churchwarden.

The Churchyard, which contains many fine tombs, was enclosed by brick walls in 1645. A square stone, bearing the date, and the name Steven Wheller, is in Red-lion-lane. The side gates and piers were erected in 1768. The gates in Church-lane were erected, in 1698, by Colonel John Gibson, Lieutenant-Governor of the town, whose name appears carved on one of the stone ornaments at the top of the pier. This name was discovered in 1826, on cleaning the stone, the pier being at that time rebuilt. The elm-trees, on the northern side, were planted by Mr. Moses Hawker; the smaller ones by Mr. Thomas Slight, to replace a fine row, capriciously destroyed some years since. 1731, the porch at the chancel erected. 1809, this porch rebuilt. 1750, 1787, 1809, the tower and cupola thoroughly repaired. 1750, the north gallery in the church erected. 1826, the churchyard lowered, and its appearance much improved.

SALARIES &c., IN 1833.

40*l.* for organist; 20*l.* to singers; 12*l.* for preparatory sermons; 6*l.* 10*s.* to organ blower; 20*l.* for lighting the evening service; two guineas annual subscription to the Bartlett's building society, and 5*l.* for tolling the morning and evening curfew.

DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH.

1230, Thomas Eynolf, of Portsmouth, left "to the altar of St. Thomas the Martyr fourpence, to the fabric of the church fourpence, for ever, yearly; to the canons and priests various sums; to the belfry of St. Thomas twelve-pence; and for lighting the image of the altar of St. Mary in the church of St. Thomas at Portsmouth, one penny yearly, for ever; and sixpence on the feast of St. Michael yearly, to the church of St. Thomas.

1615, Sir John Burlace, Governour of Portysmuth, did gyve at the baptym of his child, fowr hangings to the church, one for the pulpit, one for the communion table, one for the Gouvernor's seat, and one for the Mayor's;—too of them cloth of gold, and one of them embroidered on both sides, and one of them red velvet; they were opened thys 24th of August, 1615.

1633, John Trigger, churchwarden, and Roger Pricy, did cast the fourth bell, Anno Domini 1632; and a new bibell, which cost thirte shillings; and a new table cloth for communion which cost thirte shillings.

1636, Inventory—two bookes of comon prayer; Bishop Jewell's works; one silver chalice wy a cover to him; two pewter flaggons for the communion table; two surplices, two diap tabel cloths, and

two napkins of diap; one tabel cloth of branched damaske being red and yellow; one cushion and cloth belonging to the pulpit of the same damaske; one pall, the bed of it cloth of gold: two fair cushions of cloth of gold, laced wy gold lace; one needle-work cushion for the pulpit, wrought on both sydes wy gold silk and siluer; one cushion for the comunion tabel, of red veluet embroaided wy gold. These four cushions were giuen by the worthy Knight, Sir John Burlace, to remain successively in the said church (parish) for ever, for the use of the said parish church, and not otherwise. Four bells in the tower, one saint's bell on the top of the church, two small bells for the quarter clock, one greate clock, one quarter clock, and one pair of chimes.

1687, Nov. 12, this day a certain parcell of plate (the particular pieces whereof are underneath mentioned) was presented to the mayor, alderman, and burgesses of the Borough of Portesmouth, in their Town-hall assembled; wych plate was freely given by his gracious Majesty, our present Sovereign Lord, King James the Second, for the use of the parish church of Portesmouth, and is as follows:—Imprimis, two fair silver flaggons, plain; one fair silver chalice; two fair large silver platters; one small silver platter; the whole parcel weighing one hundred and nineteen ounces. J. Grundy, mayor, Isaac Betts, Thos. Hancock, John Blose, Thos. Heather, Vicar, and John Taylor, churchwarden.

PRESENT COMMUNION PLATE.

	oz.	dwt.
Two Flagons.....	72	15
Two Chalices	35	0
Two Patens	26	15
Two Plates (1725).....	30	16
Two Ditto (1804).....	21	15
Two Ditto (1810).....	30	10
Two Ditto (1812).....	30	3
One Wine Strainer	1	8

“1725, two silver plates for receiving the offerings, added by subscription.”—We find, on the under surface of one of the chalices, the following inscription: “Alder John Moth, his gift to the church of Tangier, November 10, 1672;” on the front a crest, three tigers heads and a star, surmounted by a helmet, a wreath surrounding.

1693, one large crimson velvet communion cloth with gold fringe, and two embroidered cushions, covered with similar velvet, given by Thomas Ridge, Esq.

1694, one crimson velvet pulpit cloth, and cushion and cloth for the pulpit and reading-desk, with gold fringe and tassels, given by Nicholas Hedger, Esq. (1838, these are still in use.) One large

branche of candlesticks in the church, a gift from the Hon. Sir John Gibson, Knt., Lieutenant-Governor of Portsmouth; two brass branches of candlesticks, hanging in the body of the church, presented to the parish by Captain John Suffield, with two brass scones for the pulpit and reading-desk," (these were exchanged, in March 1806, for those in present use, the old ones not being large enough to light the church.) 1828. New rails round the altar put up by a subscription of sixty pounds.

On February 1, 1795, it was proposed to establish a lecture on Sunday evenings; that the churchwardens should light the church, and pay the expense from the church rates. This led to a long correspondence with the Vicar, the Rev. Henry Oglander, the Bishop of Winton, and others. On April 19, 1791, permission was granted by the bishop and principals of St. Mary's College (in a letter to the vicar). The lecturer was to be appointed by the vicar, subject to the license of the diocesan; the bishop having the power to put an end to the lectures when he should think fit, but not of compelling the parish to continue them, if the subscriptions should fall off. The clergyman to receive eighty pounds per annum for his services; the organist, eight guineas; the clerk, six guineas; the sexton, three; and the necessary attendants, seven. These lectures commenced on Sunday evening, May 1, 1798.

AN IMPERFECT LIST OF THE VICARS.

1260, Thomas Singleton; Nicholas Damyas. 1454, John Tone to whom the endowment, in the time of Pope Nicholas the Fifth, was granted. 1657, Henry Bartlett, obiit August 25th. 1662, Mr. Loton. 1673, B. Burgess, A.M., the Nonconformist, who died Nov. 24; he lies buried in the chancel, in front of the small doorway. 1674, Thomas Heather, A.M., chaplain to Charles the Second, and whose portrait is still to be found in the libraries of the curious. Ob. Nov. 30, 1696, and was buried in the church.

1696, William Ward, A.M., presented to the living under the following circumstances:—

Westminster, Jan. 2, 1696.

Being very much solicited by the Governour and officers of Portsmouth for your favour to present Mr. Ward for the vicarage which is vacant and in your disposall, and knowing very well how fitt he is for that station, I cannot but earnestly recommend him to you, and am very sensible that the kindness which the Governour and officers designe for him will turn to the future advantage of your worthy society, for the prosperity of which I dayley pray, so my endeavours shall never be wanting to promote it. I heartily recommend you to God's blessing and protection, and am yours affectionately,

To the College of Winchester.

P. WINCHEST.

To the parish of Portsmouth he proved a troublesome, meddling priest, not allowing the parishioners to meet in church, but compelled them to hold their vestries on a tombstone in the church-yard, he is buried under the altar.

1725, Anthony Bliss, LL. B. 1748, William Langbaine, A.M. This gentleman went into retirement, and refused to see any one for many years. 1749, Walter Bigg and Henry Tayler, A. M. (mentioned with honour in Dr. Parr's works.) 1790, Henry Oglander, B. D. 1804, Henry Sissmore, L.L.B. 1815, Charles Brune Henville, A. M. &c.

At the side of the chancel (which is the property of the College of Winchester) is a small vestry, neatly fitted up. The chancel, and two houses at the east corner of Oyster-street, in the High-street, form part of the Stubbington property.

A few years since, two boys, during the night, kindled a fire in this vestry, and under the communion-table, with a view to destroy the church; the diabolical attempt luckily failed. They were condemned to death at Winchester, but respited.

The present new and commodious vicarage, in the centre of the High-street, was erected by the present vicar, being commenced on the first of September, 1826, finished in March 1828. The old and decayed house on the same site, was built in the year 1690, by the Rev. Mr. Heather, vicar,

In the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica* of Pope Nicholas the fourth, A.D. 1291, the valuation stands—Vicarage of Portesmewe also Portesmewe, £6 13s. 4d. The tenth or taxation, 13s. 4d. and there appears this note in the margin; church of Portesmewe, is the chapel of Portesmewe, taxed in the first portion of this Deanery?

In the Valuation of Henry the Eighth the amount stands thus—

VICARIA PORTYSMOUTH.

Nicholas Damyas modo Rector. Rectoria appropriatu	}	5	x
prioratu de Southwick in com south Valet in firma terr.			
vocat glebe land decimis oblationibus et aliis casualibus			
ut p. per dem			
Qualternu Pepris et valet clare.....		5	x
X inde.....			xi

The Vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6*l.* 13s. 4d. Patron, the Warden and Scholars, clerks, at St. Mary's-college, near Winchester.

From the ecclesiastical commission 1832. Revenues of the Parish and Vicarage of Portsmouth. Population, Eight Thousand and Seventy-eight. Stipend of Curate £150. Other allowances £66. Making a Total of £216.

SERVICES.

Three complete services on Sundays, with sermons. Prayers twice a week ; on every Saint Day, and on the first Friday in each month, full evening service, and sermon.

GROSS AMOUNT OF INCOME.

	£	s.	d.
From Glebe Lands, Rental	24	0	0
From Houses on Glebe Lands	313	6	0
From allowance for Monthly Service (since abolished) ..	12	0	0
From Easter offerings and Michaelmas dues	16	19	2
Dividends in the funds	9	11	0
From Ordnance for Barrack yard, Colewort and build- ing on Glebe Land	2	0	0
Surplice and other fees	154	14	0
Pew rent for 3rd. Service according to Act of Parliament	80	0	0
	612	10	2

PAYMENTS

	£	s.	d.
Tenths	0	13	10
Land Tax	6	7	0
Synodals	0	2	6
Procuration	0	1	7
	7	4	11
Curate's Salary, &c.	216	0	0
	223	4	11
Repairs of Houses Annually, about	50	0	0
Mortgage till 1846	56	10	0
	329	14	11

THE ROYAL CHURCH OF THE GARRISON.

The only remains of "Domus Dei," situate at the side of the Parade, in a slanting direction, has been lately thoroughly repaired ; the ceiling heightened and rendered flat, as far as the chancel : this is built in the Saxon pointed style ; the groining of the roof springing from pilasters supported on ponderous mullions. The nave is supported by ten octagonal pillars, from the capitals of which spring plain pointed arches, dividing this part of the building into three aisles ; a single rib springs from mullions between each arch, some resembling roses, and one being an exact resemblance to the head of a monk in the chancel of St. Thomas's Church.

This church is in length from the east end to the west, one hundred and twenty-two feet, and in breadth in the inside forty-five feet.*

* George Huish, August 21, 1752.

The altar-piece represents Moses and Aaron in pontificals, presenting the tables of the law. This was a few years since removed, under the idea that it concealed a niche containing the high altar of the Catholic faith ; this was not the case, but in a small niche on the right side, now concealed by wainscoting, was discovered the basin for holy water, &c. Queen Anne bestowed the communion plate, which is very handsome, consisting of two large flagons, two embossed cups with covers, and a dish of large size ; and on the cloth used to cover the table, was emblazoned a view of Lisbon, and the royal arms of Portugal ; probably a gift at the marriage of Charles the Second with the Infanta of Portugal, and in commemoration of which there was formerly inscribed over the door-way **CAROLVS II. A : REG : XXXIIII.**

The windows in the chancel, and the great window above the altar, are adorned with plain pillars, having round capitals. The Governor's seat is decorated with a profusion of carving in wood, as are many of the pews. On a medallion in front appear the initials in gold A. R. Her Majesty's arms were formerly in the ceiling, on a very large painting. In this church are many mural monuments worthy of notice, to the memories of naval and military officers. The cemetery is in front of the building, enclosed by high walls ; it formerly extended over a large part of the Parade, in the formation of which, and laying the foundations of the new Ramparts, in 1733-4, a large quantity of human bones were disturbed. On the removal of the Government-house, a portion of the chancel of this church was exposed, and exhibited three large Saxon windows closed up, but which corresponded with those of the opposite side ; through one, a passage had been made to the Governor's pew or gallery ; below was a very small conventual doorway, closed by brickwork, and a small buttress in the angle with loopholes.

May 2, 1778, his Majesty George III, and the Queen came in Portsmouth ten minutes after one o'clock at noon ; and on Sunday morning went to Portsmouth chapel, where the Rev. G. Cuthbert preached, taking his text from the sixth chapter of Deuteronomy, and the thirteenth verse : the Rev. George Cuthbert was chaplain to the King, &c. alderman of Portsmouth, and several times mayor of this his native place.

1811, May. Magnificent obsequies (according to the Catholic faith) of Count Aimable Rufin, French General, who died on board the Gorgon of his wounds ; the Rev. F. De la Rue officiating, all the troops in the Garrison attending, and the cannon firing minute guns.

CONSECRATION OF MILITARY STANDARDS.

This religious ceremony—a relic of the middle ages, is still occasionally performed with much pomp in this chapel. On Wednesday, May 29, 1799, after the proper services for the Restoration, the Rev. J. Davies, A. B. of St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, consecrated the Standards presented to the Royal Garrison Volunteers by Mr. W. Garrett, and preached a Sermon on the occasion, [the standards of the Portsmouth Volunteers were consecrated in St. Thomas's church by Mr. Bussell.] A pamphlet detailing this circumstance was printed at the time. In 1816, a second example took place the colours of the thirty-sixth Regiment being consecrated with much religious and military pomp, by the Rev. S. Leggatt, Chaplain to the forces. The new standards of the Royal Marines presented by the Lord High Admiral [William IV.] were at the time not consecrated.

Deed relating to the Hospital of DOMUS DEI, of Portsmouth.

“To all the Sons of Holy Mother Church, Master ALANUS DE STOKES, Deputy Archdeacon of Peter, Lord Bishop of Winchester, Greeting in the Lord. Be it known to all, that every controversy argued before any Judges, between the Prior and Convent of Southwick on one part, and the Master and Brothers of the Hospital of God's House of Portsmouth on the other, concerning the jurisdiction of the Parish Church of Portsmouth, is amicably settled after this form before us: in the aforesaid Hospital, Divine Service may be celebrated, according to the right of their Parish Church of Portsmouth, by two priests, as also by the Governor of the Hospital, if he be a priest; and if any foreign priest visiting the same for the purpose of seeing kinsman or relation, shall wish, it shall be lawful for him to assist at the same; and they may have *two bells*, not exceeding the weight of the bells of the Mother Church, which shall ring at Matins, and Missals, and Vespers, and for the Dead. And after the bells of the new Mother Church have rung, the said Brothers shall not receive the Parishioners of Portsmouth to confession, nor to communion of the body of Christ, unless any sick person shall wish and particularly ask confession of any priest of the Hospital (the requisite consent of the parish priest being obtained, it shall not be denied him.) They shall not receive any stranger to confession publicly in Lent, except the brothers, sisters, family, sick persons at the time, and inmates. Nevertheless if any stranger shall seek advice from any priest of the Hospital, it shall be lawful to receive him privately. Moreover on Sundays, and on the eight great festivals, namely, the Birth-day of our Lord, the Epiphany, the Purification, the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, the Ascension of our Lord, the Birth-day of the Blessed Mary, and the Feast of All Saints, the Brothers of the aforesaid Hospital shall not receive the Parishioners of Portsmouth. If however, it shall happen, that any of the aforesaid Parishioners shall come to hear divine service on the aforesaid festivals, or on Sundays, at the aforesaid Hospital, they shall be admitted, and their offering, if any be brought, shall be restored whole and entire to the Mother Church, under the penalty hereunder expressed, unless the said Parishioners shall first have made satisfaction to the aforesaid Mother Church.

“Moreover it shall *not* be lawful for any one of the said Hospital to enter ships, or give Benediction, or read the Gospel or beg alms after reading it, the Gospel being read and rites performed by the Chaplain of the Mother Church. Moreover the aforesaid Canons agree, that the Hospital shall have a Cemetery for the Brothers and also for the Sisters of the said Hospital, and for families and poor persons and others dying in the said Hospital: but we mean Brothers and Sisters after this reading:—those who have put on the

same habit, and have put it off, or those who have bequeathed their estates to the said Hospital. Nevertheless, if any stranger shall chuse to be interred at the said hospital, it shall be lawful for them to receive them, provided the body shall be first carried to the Mother Church, and mass celebrated there. And be it known, that it becomes the Parishioners of Portsmouth to leave their first legacy to the Mother Church and the Parish Priest should hold the Will of the Parishioners safe from loss; not that the Mother Church will suffer by this concession, the brothers of the said hospital shall pay to the Mother Church every year, namely, five shillings at the Feast of St. Michael, five shillings at the Circumcision of our Lord, at the Passover five shillings, and at the feast of St. John the Baptist five shillings; and for the greater security the said brothers have taken their corporal oaths, the Evangelists being touched; bound themselves under a stipulated penalty, to wit, forty shillings to be paid to the prior and convent, if any crime be committed; but if after the sinning against this canon law they shall not give satisfaction within eight days, the sin committed is acquitted without contradiction to the said prior and convent.

“And that all these things may be understood on the part of the prior and convent, this deed is executed in the first year after the decease of Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, and in testimony of which the parties present have strengthened the deed with their seals; and, the Lord Bishop of Winchester being absent, we, by his authority, confirm and sign our seal, together with the signet of Master B. Archive of the same place.—These being the witnesses, Master A. de Eblesburn, Master R.—Canon; Master J. Waltingford, R. Deacon of Winchester, W. Chapel, Deacon, and many others.”

GOD'S HOUSE, PORTSMOUTH.

According to the writings of Matthew Paris, 1238, Peter de la Roche, or de Rupibus, was the founder of the Hospital of Portsmouth, in the west south-west part of the town, about 1205. Dugdale says—“Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, founded at Portsmouth, in the reign of King John, a famous hospital called God's House, which was dedicated to Saints John the Baptist, and Nicholas.” Camden follows the same account, and Speed adds, “a college here founded by the same Bishop,” of which, however no other mention can be found. After the death of the founder, the house according to the Rivers manuscripts, remained in the patronage of John de Pontissara; and William de Wrotham, Archdeacon of Taunton, bestowed on it as a free gift, certain messuages and houses in Hants. In September, 1219, Henry the Third commanded the Sheriff of Hampshire to preserve to the brothers of the hospital at Portsmouth, the fee farm rental of lands in Selburne ten shillings yearly, as bequeathed to them by Emeric de Sassy, before his departure to the Holy Land, and in the fourth year of his reign he orders the Sheriff to retain the issues of lands in Burton, given as an eleemosynary donation by Emeric de Sassy to the hospital, the first being in possession of the Templar Knights, and the latter in the keeping of Hugo de Vivonia. Proceedings were also instituted before the itinerant Justices, respecting certain possessions in Winchester and Portsmouth, and these proceedings were repeated in the

twentieth and thirty-seventh, and again in the fifty-second year of Henry the Third, concerning their possessions, settling disputes between them, the Vicar of Portsmouth, and the convent of Southwick, and also regarding their manor of Lafham. In the thirty-fifth year of Edward the first, Roger de Harwedon was Custos of the Hospital, and they had granted to them the right of free warren in lands in Portsmouth, Froderington, Fratton, and Feldushe. In the tenth year of Edward the Second, ecclesiastical proceedings were held regarding the advowson of the Hospital being in the grant of the Bishop of Winchester. By a deed in 1272, from Richard le Cenceror, of Portsmouth, to God and the Church of the blessed Mary of Southwick, the brethren of God's House received yearly, for ever, on the feast of St. Michael, for a piece of land granted to the convent, three silver pennies. In 1276, by a deed from Robert of St. Dionysius, of Portsmouth, to Ada de Stobeton, the said brothers received for a house and its appurtenances in the High-street, four silver shillings, for ever, on the feast of St. John the Baptist. In the twenty-second year of Edward the Third, the head of the hospital assumed the title of Prior, and they received five pounds yearly from the lands of William Overton, in le Frenchmore, near Brighton; and about this period the brethren petitioned the King for his favour, regarding the thirtieth and fifteenth due from them to the Exchequer, and the King, granting their prayer, they besought his brief to the Exchequer, in extenuation. About this time also Richard Wykeham was succeeded by his brother as Warden, the latter being principal in 1378. These two were brothers of William of Wykeham, who in his will, dated 1404, writes—"I bequeath to the hospital of St. Nicholas, at Portsmouth, one suit of vestments and a chalice." In the taxation of Pope Nicholas the fourth, the Prior is taxed four shillings and nine-pence halfpenny for his possessions at Burghedge, being his tenths on two pounds eight shillings. On the suppression of the Templar knights, Uggeton, a manor in the Isle of Wight, was given to God's House—an account of this may be seen in Worsley's history. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, Leland thus describes it, "There is also in the west south-west part of the town a fair hospital, some time erected by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, wherein were twelve poor men, and yet six be in it."—Shortly after this the house was visited by the harpies called Commissioners, and in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, appears their report, "Hospital of St. Nicholas, Portsmouth, John Incent, Master, valuation in fee farm, rental of lands, together with the spiritualities and temporalities rendered to the Commissioners and attested by

them, 33*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* ; and by the act of suppression, it became vested in the crown as the residence of the Governor, and the lands passed into the possession of Lord Powerscourt.

Ancient Seal of the Hospital called 'God's House' at Portsmouth.—The seal is of the usual monastic or longoal shape surrounded by the legend, "*Sigillum comune de domus dei de Portes-muth.*" At the upper part is a hand projecting from a cloud, emblematical of the first person of the Trinity, and still used as a masonic emblem ; below this on either side, the sun and moon, the latter represented as a horned crescent, enclosing the profile of the human countenance ; between these and in the centre of the seal, a large and bold cross, of the kind called in heraldry, a cross flory, on each side of which are two angels worshipping and bearing a ribbon or scroll on which the cross rests. This represents the second person of the Trinity, according to the papal ceremony of the exaltation of the cross, and its grandeur is exemplified by the angelic figures in the act of adoration, and its altitude being superior even to the sun and moon. At the lower part appears a roll of vellum indicating the holy scriptures, the writings produced by the inspiration of the third person or Holy Spirit.

VISITORS IN ANCIENT TIMES.

1221. Henry the Third, with all his earls, barons, and knights, and one of the finest armies ever raised in England assembled at Portsmouth. 1231. King Henry landed at Portsmouth from his expedition to France.—March 15, 1242. King Henry, with his Queen, Prince Richard his brother, seven earls, three hundred knights, and thirty hogsheads of silver, embarked at this port for Guienne.—August, 1253 King Henry—May, 1346, King Edward III.—July, 1386, the Duke of Lancaster embarked at Portsmouth for Spain : he carried with him Constantia of Castile, his wife, with his two daughters Philippa and Catherina ; King Richard II. and his Queen accompanied them to Portsmouth, and wishing them success, presented them with two gold crowns. 1445. Margaret of Anjou, attended by the Marchioness of Suffolk and a large assemblage of nobility, landed at Portsmouth, and proceeded to the priory of Southwick, where she was married to Henry VI. on the 11th of April.

The following Antiquarian hoax was Published some few years ago.

"Furst cum foure beadils wythe staues to cleare the waye, than

the wardene & broders of senet nycholas hauynge crosses inne theyre hondes, al dressyd inne kyrtylls of white satten furryd withe shankes, and blacke hudes, than ma'ter maier *henrie de la berne* and his brotherne onne grete horses rychlie arraied inne robes lynte withe lettese, withe p'tie colored tunycs reachynge to theyre knees, makynge togetheyre a mooste goodlye showe, folowed by manie of the inhabytaunts of Portesmuth her foloynge, *henrie bianchii*, hughe raggye, rychard cooptore, robarte molendine, stephene instyce, peter coperas, ada sonewyne, robarte clarke, eadmunde clarke, adam de wanstede, herberte manniet, waryne le mercir, martyne pollard, iohn le maye, hughe estmar, wyllyam de la lanade, iohne le draper, phillipe sonewyne, iohn de la berne, iohn le chiiche, stephene carnifex, thomas la warte, galtryde de bemunde, herberte de la barre, than twoe beadils wythe hem, and heraulties onne each syde blowynge slughoornes, than the priour & broders of *domus dei* twoe by twoe, chauntynne godlye psaulmes to the moche joie and contente of all p'sente, & lastlye came foure beadils wythe flags and pennons blowynge slughoornes, folowed by asmanie more deckyd inne crymsone bearynge anlaces; the companie wente downe ye *hyghe stret* untyll theye cam to ye *chirche of senct thomas*, and than ye heraultes blewe theyre slughoornes, and than maister maier & hys companie gott off theyre horses, and fell onne theyre knees, and than ye fryars & prestes chauntyd a hymme for the soule of ye blessyd martir & than theye crossyd hemsilves & wente onne wardes, than theye went down *senct thomasse stret* & so down *Kynges stret*, *Suth stret* & *Doun stret* & than vppe alonge ye *hyghe stret*, to the *Coorte hous* wch ys oposite ye *hospitall of senct nycholas*, wher theye drewe vppe inne ye priours close ther; & fourthwythe ye heraulties blewe ye hoornes & than theye wente acrossse ye close to the *hospitall of domus dei* & ther hearde a godlie sermon delyvered by the preste maister galfryde whoe endyd it inne theis woordes—for he ys above all thynges and by net he all thynges and wt inne all thynges, he ys above all thynges in goidynge, bynethe all thynges in vppe beryng wt inne all thynges in fulfyllynge; he is large in manie maner wyses, furst heys large inne wordes & wordlyche thynges, in so moche that he frelyche geveth wordlych goodes as well to wykkyd menne as to goode menne, he ys large of en'lastyng goodest to all that wollethe ryghfullyche, al so he woll goue vs grete mede for he seythe hymselfe in the gospelle 'p'mum querite dui et a'a adicient'vob,' that ys to sayynge furst biddeth ye kyngdom of heuen and al goodes shall come to zow. Oure swete lorde Jhu est geue vs fort worshyp hym and so to fouth oure neyghborwes and so fort meketh vs selues, also that

we maye for the worschippe that we dothe to god her on erthe be y worschyped vnne heuen, and for oure owne mekenesse and lowenese that we haueth her on erthe mowe by hyzed in the blis of heuen amen, amen for charitie—and that after thys they wente inne to ye *Coorte* hous & feasted & made merrie vntyll complyn & than theye partyd & oftsoones inhabytaunts mette togetheyr inne *hoywynsburge grene* & plaid & made *bonfyres* al nyghte longe.

Land belonging to the Hospital of Domus Dei, in the several furlongs and common fields of Portsmouth, amounting to seventy acres.

Catelif Furlonge, God's House, Portesmoth	iiij	di	Aker
Chilmer Furlonge North ditto	j		Stich
Black Thorne Furlonge (South) ditto		di	Aker
God's House Furlonge [North] ditto	vj		Akers
Full Sea Furlonge [West] ditto		di	Aker
Foutorne Furlonge [West] ditto	j		Aker
Wett Furlonge [East] ditto	iiij		Akers
Water Furlonge [West] ditto	iiij	di	Akers
Peckshall Furlonge [West] ditto	vj		Akers
Kingwelrose Furlonge [West] ditto	j		Aker
Newgate Furlonge [North to the Railes] ditto	j	di	Aker
Short Broome Furlonge [South] ditto		di	Aker
Mill Stile Furlonge (West) ditto		di	Aker
St. Andrew Furlonge (East) ditto	viiij	di	Akers
Shovell Furlonge (West) ditto		di	Aker
Lake Furlonge (East) ditto	vij	di	Akers
Kingwell Furlonge (North) ditto	iiij		Akers
Close Furlonge (East) ditto		di	Aker
Reddish Furlonge (North)		di	Aker
Gore Furlonge (South) ditto	j	di	Aker
Lake Furlonge (West) ditto	v	di	Akers
Pease Furlonge (West) ditto	ij		Akers
Copner Furlonge (South) ditto		di	Aker
Bramble Furlonge [West] ditto	ij	di	Akers
Stobington Furlonge [North] ditto	j	di	Aker
North Streete Furlonge [North] ditto	ij		Akers
South Streete Furlonge [North] ditto	iiij	di	Akers
Abram Furlonge [West] ditto	j	di	Aker
White bedde Furlonge (West) ditto	j		Aker
Curges Crofte ditto	j	di	Aker

In the Lansdowne collection of manuscripts Nos. 69 and 72, may be found estimates of Popynjaye, the Surveyor of Portsmouth, bearing date July 24, 1581-82, for the charges of repairing the Queen's house at Portsmouth, called "God's House" and other buildings, and converting it into a residence for the Governor; and in No. 116 may be found "the articles and instructions to be kept and observed by Richard Popynjaye, Surveyor of Portsmouth; this last is in the Strype collection."

MARRIAGE OF CHARLES II.

"As soon as the King had notice of the Queen's landing, he sent to welcome her Majesty on shore and followed himself next day, and upon the twenty first the King married the Queen, in the present chamber of his Majesty's house—there was a rail across the upper

part of the room, in which entered only the King and Queen, the Bishop of London, the Ambassador and Sir Richard Fanshaw : in the other part of the room there were many of the nobility and servants to their Majesties—the Bishop of London declared them married in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and then they caused the ribbons her Majesty wore, to be cut in little pieces and as far as they could every one had some.

In honey-moon
Thus wrote the King to Clarendon :

“ Portsmouth, May 21, eight in the morning.

Arrived here yesterday at noon ;
Went to my dear wife's room as soon
As I had shifted. Not each grace
Of fairest Venus in her face :
But still her eyes I must admire—
They're excellent, and full of fire.
Her conversation easy,—wit
And voice, as might a Queen befit ;
And wonder would be raised in thee
Could you our good acquaintance see.
Certain our humours well accord .
She'll prove a lovely wife, my Lord!
With weighty matters so opprest,
Seek from my Nobleman the rest.

“ C. REX.”

VISIT OF KING JAMES THE SECOND.

1672, September, we found all the way full of people, the women in their best dress, in expectation of seeing the King pass, which he did riding on horseback, we found the Mayor and Aldermen with their Mace, and in their peculiar robes, standing at the entrance of the fort, where the mayor made a speech to the King.

“ The guns were fired and three thousand troops lined the streets and platform to God's house, the governor's residence ; the King viewed the fortifications (which are very strong and a noble key,) the Ship Dock of which Sir R. Beach is commissioner, and afterwards was entertained with a magnificent dinner, Slingsby the Lieutenant Governor, with all the gentlemen of his train sitting down at table with him. In the evening I found the King putting on his boots in the town hall adjoining the house where he dined, when having saluted some ladies who came to kiss his hand, he took horse for Winchester.”

Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark, resided in this house.

“ The hall of the Government-house is artificially hung round with arms of all sorts, like the hall and keep at Windsor.” We possess a small drawing of the mansion previous to the command of Sir W. Pitt, who altered the external appearance materially, as did

also the Earl of Pembroke : it was for many years uninhabited, except a small part retained for the Town-major.

January 7, 1779, began the trial, at the Governor's-house, on Admirals Keppel and Palasier for not taking the French fleet.

June 15, 1794, Lord Howe arrived after his victory, on the first of June, and landed at Portsmouth amidst the hearty and deafening acclamations of the inhabitants. He proceeded to the Governor's house on the Grand Parade, where on the next day he held a levee, at which the Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses were introduced. His Lordship also resided here during the mutiny.

GEORGE THE THIRD AND HIS FAMILY.

June 26, 1794. Sunday Evening, the King and the family came to the governor's house about seven o'clock when the band of the Gloucester militia played on the parade—the Queen and the Ladies sat on the balcony for some time and then joined the King and Prince Ernest on the Queen's battery where with a host of nobility they continued to promenade—they then returned in their coaches to the dockyard.

1799, December 7. A splendid banquet given to the Russian officers at the Government-house, lent for the occasion by the governor, Sir William Pitt. The guests were so pleased with the ornaments on the pastry, that they requested them, to be sent home as presents to their friends.

1798. September, a splendid masquerade at the Government-house, given by Sir Home Popham.

1800. There were several fine poplars round the house and under the Church walls, with a profusion of flowering shrubs in a small enclosure or garden. In the possession of Mr. John Garrett, is a large painting of the front of the house, with part of the church, painted on the occasion of the presentation of colours to the Garrison Volunteers by the lady of W. Garrett, Esq.

January 3, 1801. Fête in honour of the Union, at the Government-house, by Admiral and Lady Durham. The Union flag first hoisted on the platform, and the new standard in the harbour, which was saluted by the fleet.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

On the evening of Thursday, June 23rd, 1814. The Regent of England, the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, Blucher, and their suites, the English and foreign Dukes and Princes, came into the balcony, each with a glass of wine, and drank to the as-

sembled thousands amidst such thunders of applause as gave the scene the most astounding character. The illumination was most superb. In front of the building appeared the word **PEACE**, two brilliant stars, and above, the initials **A** and **F**, with wreaths of laurel, surmounted by a crown and star ; and a large transparency of the letter **A**. The windows, parapets, and columns of the west and south fronts were also covered with lamps for three nights ; the number used being 13,348.

June 24th—In the evening his Royal Highness had a dinner of above one hundred and twenty covers, when their Majesties, the Grand Duchess, the Princess, and their respective suites dined, and to which several distinguished foreigners, the Board of Admiralty, the ministers, and naval and military officers of the ranks of post-captain and colonel respectively, had the honour to be invited. In short, this dinner party consisted of some of the most gallant defenders of their country, both by sea and land. To gratify the tumultuous joy expressed by the populace, the whole Imperial party, late in the evening, rose from the banquet, came forward into the balcony, each bearing a goblet of wine, and while—

“The kettle to the trumpet spake
The trumpet to the cannoneer without,
The cannons to the heavens, the heavens to earth,
The assembled Monarchs drank to England’s health.”

Jan. 21, 1826—the Government-house began to be demolished this morning ; and on March the 18th, 1826, was entirely destroyed. The only remains of antiquity discovered were two very low pointed Saxon arches, which had been incorporated with modern brickwork, the groining still forming the ceilings of wine-cellars.

The walls of the mansion were three feet nine inches thick ; it contained forty-three apartments. The new part of the building was elevated on a platform, two feet above that which fronted the Parade, which exhibited a plain extensive front, with a balcony in the centre, supported by four small stone pillars. (There was in 1760 a double flight of stone steps.) In the first-floor was a dining-room, and a large and lofty hall, lighted by a skylight elevated above the roof ; in which were formerly held all public assemblies :—at one extremity near the Church was a square turret. The building extended backward a long distance, exhibiting architecture of different periods, with some lofty chimneys of remarkable shapes. At the side was a doorway under an arch ; and farther on, a second up a flight of steps leading to a kind of hall, supported by pillars. The domestic offices were very spacious, and attached to some large gardens, with hothouses, &c. with a close of meadow-land, extending from Penny-

street and Green-row to the Fortifications. In one of the gardens is a mulberry-tree, split in a remarkable manner.

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

There is a tradition that in the Colewort ground in Portsmouth, anciently stood a conventual building dedicated to the Virgin, and records of its existence are said to be in existance. The authors of the *English Monasticon*, make no mention of such an establishment, nor does the accurate Leland in his survey of the town by order of the eighth Henry, describe it; if it did exist it was probably suppressed with the alien priories and other monastic establishments in the reign of Henry the fifth, and was of little import—some ruins of a building were here in 1692, and used in the construction of St. Thomas's Church, and in 1830, a mutilated stone cross was dug up in the burial ground, and placed on the summit of the new vestry of the parish church.

The burial ground has of late years been much improved, by the erection of walls and gates, a few feet being left in the rear of the houses, for which the owners pay the vicar a small quit rent, yearly.

In 1836, It was determined to erect a Church on this site; a liberal subscription was entered into, to which the clergy of the establishment gave six hundred pounds, including two hundred and fifty from the Vicar, the Rev. C. B. Henville, a like sum from the College of Winchester, sixty pounds from the members of Parliament, one hundred from the Bankers and Merchants, fifty from the officers of the Navy and Army, one hundred from the inhabitants, to which the Commissioners added one thousand, and at Christmas 1837, Mr. Bramble commenced the sacred edifice dedicated

To holy Mary, Virgin Mother
Nature shews not such another,
Glorious, holy, meek, and mild.

The Chapel of the General Baptists was built in 1715, the society having existed in the town from the dawn of nonconformity. Its situation, on the site of an older chapel, points backwards to the times of religious persecution, when these edifices existed only by connivance of the ruling powers. A convenient baptistery was erected in it about 1750. Previously, baptism by immersion was administered in a small piece of water in the orchard of Eastney Farm, which was many years in the possession of Mr. Osmond, one of the society. The successive pastors have been Messrs. Bowes, Sturch, Austen, Mills, and Joseph Brent. At the sale of the victualling office, three lots, containing 54 feet frontage, were purchased

for the purpose of erecting thereon a spacious Chapel, for the use of the Calvinistic Baptist denomination, but the idea was abandoned.

In Pembroke Street is a small Chapel belonging to the Independent connection. This was formerly a workshop belonging to Mr. Bramble, who purchased two or three small ruinous houses on the scite and built the present dwelling house in the street, from this gentleman it was purchased, and the back premises altered to its present form of a Chapel about 1830.

The Bethel Chapel, and school is in Bath Square, Point.

The original Chapel of the Wesleyan Methodists in Portsmouth was in Oyster-street, and was opened by John Wesley himself, in 1788; but being soon found too small, it was sold by auction, and is now converted into a large store; the form and shape are not however altered. The new chapel, in Green-row, was erected in 1810-11; opened on May 1, 1811; the expense of the ground and building being 7000*l*. The principal front is formed of white brick, with a handsome parapet, having two entrances, and three windows below, and five large arched windows above. The interior is sixty-eight feet long, and fifty broad, with galleries extending all round: in the one above the communion-table was erected, in 1826, a small well-toned organ. The chapel will contain two thousand persons. It is pewed throughout, very commodious, and well lighted; behind are large rooms for schools, commenced in 1808; a vestry; and, in St. Nicholas-street, a handsome residence for the minister. On the site of this chapel was formerly a Quaker's meeting-house.

The building, now denominated the Unitarian Chapel, (behind which is a vestry and large library) is a neat brick edifice, at the upper end of the High-street, having a large doorway, and three arched windows in front, and a circular parapet, in the Dutch style architecture. Until 1822 it was hidden from the street by a high wall and closed gates, behind which were a number of lofty poplar trees. Becoming in bad repair, it was, in 1822, restored and beautified, by means of a most liberal subscription of more than 1100*l*. The wall was removed, and handsome gates and iron palisades substituted; but the fine trees, which served to shade the chapel from the sun, and gave an air of solemnity to the edifice, were cut down. A square tablet in front marks the date of the reparation, as does also a Latin inscription above the doors. The interior is neat and elegant, with galleries on three sides; in it are tablets to the memory of Dr. Wrenne, and Dr. Silver, an eminent physician. A mural marble monument, with letters of gold, marks the place of interment (in the chapel-yard, which is very confined) of the late Sir

John Carter, knight, who died May 18, 1808, aged eighty-seven.

In 1676, on August 2, the first register of baptism performed in the Presbyterian chapel in Penny-street, Portsmouth, is attested by Mr. John Hicks, of Trinity college, Dublin; but it is unknown at what precise period the building was erected. This Mr. Hicks was the memorable refugee in the house of Lady Lisle, during Monmouth's rebellion; and his being discovered there, the cause of the death of the venerable lady, by order of the infamous Judge Jeffries. He was succeeded in the ministry of the chapel by Mr. Thomas Clark, who had been ejected from the vicarage of Godshill. He settled at Portsmouth in 1682, and continued his ministry till 1690—"an intelligent man, of pleasing manners, and remarkable for a happy vein of humour in conversation." The next minister was Mr. Francis Williams, from 1690 till 1703. During his ministry a public disputation was held on the subject of baptism, by permission of the Lieut.-governor, Colonel John Gibson, and Henry Seager, Esq. mayor, and in their presence, [1699] the records of which, published by each party, may still be found. In 1707 the Rev. Simon Brown was ordained pastor; the congregation still meeting in the chapel in Penny-street. [Part of the brewery of Pike and Co. now occupies the site.] He filled the situation with zeal, talent, and respectability, publishing in this town in 1708 a Caveat against evil Company; and in 1709 "The true Character of the real Christian or sincere good man." In 1716 he removed to London, and on his departure the old chapel was pulled down, and the principal portion of the materials used in constructing the new edifice in the High-street, which was finished at an expense of upwards of a thousand pounds in 1718. In the "Adventurer" is an interesting account of Mr. Brown, who laboured for years under the delusion that God had deprived him of his rational soul. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Norman, who ministered from August 1716, till 1756, and lies buried in Portsmouth churchyard. Dr. Wrenne was the next minister, ordained January 9th, 1657, died October 27th, 1787, and was the first person interred in the ground surrounding the chapel. During the first American war, Dr. Wrenne received the unanimous thanks of Congress, for his humane attention to the prisoners of war, subjects of the United States. The Rev. Russell Scott was chosen minister in January 1781, commenced his labours in March of the same year, and continued to preside over the congregation with great respectability, till his death in 1834; he was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Hawkes.

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
ROYAL DOCK YARD
OF
PORTSMOUTH
IN A
GUIDE BOOK THROUGH THE NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

BY
HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.

PORTSMOUTH:
SOLD BY THE BOOKSELLERS.

HISTORY OF THE NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS, DOCK-YARD, GUN-WHARF, &c.

Hail, mighty haven ! justly famed,
Land-locked and free from danger ;
By every gallant seaman named
Her Majesty's Bed-Chamber !

PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR

Is the finest in the world, possessing every possible advantage without one single disadvantage : capacious enough to receive the whole British Navy ; sheltered by high lands and towns from every wind ; affording most excellent anchorage, with a depth of water, at any time of tide, for a first-rate ship to enter, or ride in security within ; surrounded by arsenals and docks of magnificent extent, and guarded on every side with fortifications, in all the pomp and majesty of war. The entrance between the Round Tower and Blockhouse Fort is not wider than the Thames at London-bridge ; but immediately behind these it expands, passing in a kind of lake, on the Gosport side, past Haslar Hospital, as high as the village of Stoke (Haslar Lake,) and on the Portsmouth side, into the Camber and Mill-dam. The accommodation of the harbour, may be judged of from the following paragraph ; “ exclusive of merchant ships there are now lying in Portsmouth harbour, ready to be brought forward, and fitted for commissioning, should the nature of the war require it, twenty-eight sail of the line, two fifties, twenty-two frigates, seven sloops of war, two fireships, one gunbrig, and one cutter. June 7, 1803.”

By the erection of the new Gun-wharf over a part of the ancient Camber, the current of the tide has been materially altered. The shore, at the end of Broad-street, is lower by many feet than it was a few years since ; and the landing-place is deteriorated considerably ; Point Beach, twenty-five years ago, was steep ; at that time the strong tide always kept it in repair, as it does now the beach at Blockhouse. The innovation, however, on the part of government, by obtruding the New Gun-Wharf into the Harbour, has given such a new direction to the ebbing current, that the formerly steep beach at Point is now a flat, on which boats cannot land at half tide or low water, and it is continually wasting and washing away.

FRENCH PRISONERS AT PORTSMOUTH.

We have now before us a return of the prisoners of war, on board the ships in Portsmouth harbour in September, 1813, when most numerous, and the state of health at that time; which will furnish a satisfactory reply to the alleged misery and mortality as set forth by Mon. Dupin.

Ship's Names.	Prisoners in health.	Prisoners sick.
Prothie	583	10
Crown	608	3
San Damaso	726	32
Vigilant	590	8
Guildford	693	8
San Antonio	820	9
Vengeance	692	7
Veteran	592	7
Suffolk	683	6
Assistance	727	35
Ann Princessa	769	9
Kron Prenessa	760	4
Walderman	809	1
Negro	175	0
	<hr/> 9227	<hr/> 139

Being equal to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in the hundred.

A magnificent view of the interior of the harbour, shipping, arsenals, Gunwharf, and the towns of Gosport and Portsea, with the lofty towers and domes of the colleges in the Dock, the distant hill of Portsdown, and Nelson's monument, is obtained, at the time of high-water, from the causeway at the lower end of Broad-street, Portsmouth.

On a small island in the harbour stood formerly a stone fort called Stephen's Castle.

After passing the Dock-yard, at a mile and a half from the entrance, the harbour expands to above two miles in breadth, and divides into three principal lakes; one running up to the town of Fareham, a second to Portchester Castle, and a third to Portsbridge; where, by a canal faced with stone, it communicates with Langstone Harbour. There are several other inlets, branching, towards Forton, Tipner, &c. In the larger lakes, the men-of-war are laid up in ordinary, being roofed over with timber to preserve them from the weather, and regularly painted. The number is, of course, continually changing, by their being called into commission, &c.

The rise of the tide is eighteen feet at spring tide; and at the lowest ebb tides, when the banks in front of the Forts at Block-house and of Southsea Castle are left dry, there is still

sufficient depth of water in the harbour for the largest ships of war to ride in perfect security. It flows into the haven seven hours, and ebbs a little more than five; and the current is so strong, and runs with such velocity in the Channel and at the mouth of the harbour, as effectually to scour and keep it clear, and often to be with difficulty stemmed by vessels. Within these few years it has become a practice with Government to take the Queen's ships in or out, by means of powerful steam-vessels, without regard to the wind or tide: this detracts much from the magnificence of the scene.

In 1765, the smallest depth of water at the mouth of the harbour was sixteen feet nine inches; in 1823, it is sometimes as low as thirteen feet three inches, as reported on by Captain Foulster of the Trinity house.

There are generally three guard-ships in the harbour, fully equipped for sea. On board one of these the Port-admiral has his flag flying; and from this ship the customary salutes are given or returned.* At some distance in the lake is generally one of the Royal Yachts, glittering with gilding and rich carvings. Near the Dock-yard lies that truly national ship,

“THE VICTORY.”

This Brave Ship bore, near Calpe's tide,
The British standard, floating wide;
And led our gallant fleet with pride,
Immortal fame to find;
Upon her deck were heroes lying,
Their glory with existence buying,
And *Nelson*, wounded, faint, and dying,
With yet unconquered mind.

Red flashes from the wreathing smoke
Athwart the gloom as lightning broke,
When Albion's thundering broadsides woke,
Iberia's rocks afar;
At morn, two nations for our foes
All redolent of life arose;
But thousands, ere the evening's close,
Lay dead at *Trafalgar*.

'Twas then, oh France, in homage due,
Thy banner sank, of triple hue,
And (shame to Andalusia's view!)
The flag of Spain was furled;
St. George's ensign reigned alone—
Nor till that hour his fate was known,
The Chief, who made the day our own,
Had sought a better world.

When far beyond the reach of art,
Fond thoughts were busy at his heart,
And whispered, it was hard to part
From glory, love, and life;
The shades of death around him fell,
But ere he breathed his last farewell,
He heard the shout of conquest swell,
And terminate the strife.

True friendship lives beyond the grave,
Preserves the memory of the brave,
And prompts a *Naval Power* to save
This record of his fame;
That long as Britain shall endure,
Within her circling waves secure,
Her warrior sons and patriots pure,
May honor *Nelson's* name.

Brave ship survive, their toils you shared,
Whose lives the God of Battles spared,
Though death in every form they dared,
Ere rose the vesper star;
Memorial of that glorious day,
Till centuries are passed away,
Still proudly to our children say,
“We fought at *Trafalgar*.”

A POLITICAL MURDER.

On the 28th of December, 1756, the unfortunate Admiral John Byng was tried by a Court Martial, in Portsmouth harbour, on board the *Saint George*, to which ship he was conveyed from Greenwich by a party of horse guards, and insulted in every town and village through which he passed. Although the court were of opinion

* Visitors and strangers can at all times visit, and are politely shown round the flag-ship in the harbour, without the tax of being expected to give fees for such gratification.

that his misconduct arose neither from disaffection or cowardice, and sent a remonstrance to the Admiralty in his favour, he was condemned to death. As the day for the execution of the Admiral approached, symptoms of an extraordinary character developed themselves. Lord Hardwicke had forgot to make the clergy declare murder innocent as the lawyers had been induced to find law, in what no man could find sense. Lord Anson in midnight fits of weakness and wine, held forth at Arthur's Club, on his anxiety to have Mr. Byng spared, and even went so far as to break forth abruptly to Lord Halifax, (Byng's relation by marriage) good God my Lord! what shall we do to save poor Byng? the Earl replied my Lord if you really mean it, no man can do so much towards it as yourself; Keppel, a friend of Anson and one of the judges grew restless with remorse! lest these acts of conscience should prove contagious, the King was plied with antidotes, papers were posted up with paltry rhymes,

“ Hang Byng, or take care of the King,”

while threatening anonymous letters were sent to terrify him if he pardoned, and a violent address was sent from the city of London. He was shot on board the *Monarque* on the 14th of March, 1757, and thus fell, to the astonishment of all Europe, Admiral John Byng; who, whatever his errors and indiscretions might have been, seems to have been rashly condemned, meanly given up, and cruelly sacrificed, to vile considerations.*

THE FERRY ACROSS THE HARBOUR.

'Tis a fine day! In yon trim wherry,
The fare's but small—let's cross the ferry!
Merrily, merrily, bounds the bark—
Your coats on fire, my dashing spark!
Impossible! it cannot be.
By heaven it is, Sir—in the sea!
The stranger's cheek a deep blush wore;
The boatman rested on his oar:
And, might I read his fine dark eye,
For moment fixed intently,
The innate pleasure I could trace
Kindle each feature of his face;
Sarcastic smile! his wit so dry
Hath galled the landman's vanity.
But now again the oar he plies—
In circling stream the water flies;
By many a gallant ship we sail,
And STEPHEN'S ancient *Castle* hail.
Then safely landed on the beach,

CONFLAGRATION OF L'IMPETEUX.

August 29, 1794. On Friday afternoon about five o'clock, this

* July the 5th, 1776, at six o'clock in the morning H. M. S. *Marlborough* was blown up in the harbour, thirty people killed and many more wounded.

fine new ship taken by Lord Howe was seen to be on fire, as the day closed, the flames increased in volume, and at night she was in a blaze from stem to stern—and continued to burn till late on Saturday afternoon. The following was the cause of the fire: about two tons and a half of powder were loose in the magazine which were wet, and some lighted candles were in wired lanthorns in the room leading to the magazine; these candles, from the dampness, were with difficulty kept alight. Several men were employed all the afternoon taking up the wet powder in wooden scoops, and hoisting it in barrels and starting it into the sea; after two barrels were hoisted, fire was discovered burning like a squib in the magazine passage; alarm was given, the people on deck with difficulty escaped, while all those below (one of whom it was supposed had carelessly snuffed the candle, throwing the snuff on the floor) were suffocated. The whole ship appeared on fire in a few minutes, from the combustion of the loose powder which had been trodden about the timbers and decks, and the ship burnt with such irresistible force as to defy every effort to extinguish it: seven people were burnt to death. A large painting of this conflagration is in one of the hotels in Portsmouth. In later times, the Diamond frigate was burnt in Portchester lake.

SUNDAY IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.

Religion in a sailor, is more of an active than a passive feeling. It does not consist in reflection or self-examination. It is in externals that his respect to the Deity is manifest. Witness the Sunday on board of a man-of-war. The care with which the decks are washed, the hauling taut and neat coiling down the ropes, the studied cleanliness of person, most of which duties are performed on other days, but on this day are executed with an extra precision and attention on the part of the seamen, because it is *Sunday*. Then the quiet decorum voluntarily observed; the attention to Divine Service, which would be a pattern to a congregation on shore; the little knots of men collected, in the afternoon, between the guns, listening to one who reads some serious book; or the solitary quarter-master poring over his thumbed Testament, as he communes with himself—all prove that sailors have a deep-rooted feeling of religion. The Sunday on board of a man-of-war is hallowed throughout; it commences with respect and reverence and it ends with the same.

THE LORD HIGH ADMIRAL.

1827, Sunday August the sixth. The Lord High Admiral, [William

IV] and the Duchess of Clarence, [Queen Adelaide] left the George Hotel, and passed down the centre of the street to the Sallyport between ranks of soldiers, attended by a numerous retinue, and went on board the Victory to attend divine service. It was a cloudless day, the church bells were chiming, and as the royal procession passed, the bands struck up the national anthem in perhaps the loveliest strain ever heard within the Garrison ; there was no accompaniment of noisy drums, but the soft instrumental music only, and that but for a few moments while the Duke with uncovered head, and the Duchess with a low curtsy, passed the presented colours of the different regiments—there was no noise, no confusion in the streets, no boisterous cheering on the land or sea, the royal standard being saluted by the flag ship alone. They were received on the Quarter Deck with a respectful solemnity well suited to the sabbath day, and this observance of the Sunday, in strict accordance with the known feeling of the British Navy—and this Regal veneration of the day, carried with it a great moral beauty.

WATER BOUNDARIES OF THE BOROUGH.

“The extent of the water jurisdiction depends on the state of the tide, (except across the mouth of the harbour) and it therefore includes the whole port wherever the water flows.—Horsey Island is not within the Borough jurisdiction although the waters of the haven surround it on every side : there is no instance known of a borough or county writ having been executed in it. Whale Island is within the Borough.”—Evidence of D. Howard, Esq. before the Commissioners in 1833.

The following were taken and described by the late W. Goldson, Esq. on the 7th of August, 1800.

“As close as possible from the boundary post on Southsea beach, (now marked by a white obelisk which encloses the remains of Felton’s gibbet), in a straight line across the mouth of the harbour to the end of Green-lane behind Haslar Hospital—as near to it as the tide will admit ; from hence along the shore to Blockhouse-beach, up Haslar-lake, to the Causeway at Alverstoke, (near the sea mark called the Gill Kicker), up the other branch of the lake to the bridge which crosses to the House of Industry on Ewer Common, returning hence, to Gosport beach, up Forton-lake to the Mill, to Hardway and up Bedenham-creek ; then on to Fareham Quay and up the river to the bridge at the head of the Milldam ; then down the lake to Wakerhard and on to Portchester, and from thence along the shore to Palsgrove, Wymering, and round Horsey Island to Tipner,” “the

Town Clerk claiming at each place on behalf of the Mayor and Body Corporate of Portsmouth jurisdiction, in as full and ample a manner as was ever claimed by any of the Mayors his predecessors," and asserting the jurisdiction by the Sergeant at Mace touching each place with one oar.—*Mr. Howard's return in 1831 to Mr. Lamb's letter relative to the limits.*

"I went the water bounds with Mr. Goldson. Mr. James Carter and Mr. Goldson flogged one another round the bound-post, and there was fighting at Fareham Bridge and Gosport to prevent landing from the boats; they went as far as the water would allow them."—*Mr. Lang's evidence before the corporation commissioners.*

"The Corporation went in three or four barges, with a band of music, the corporation flag, of blue silk with the crest in the centre, being in the barge in which was the mayor and aldermen in their scarlet robes, the sergeant-at-arms with the silver mace, and the town clerk."

ANCIENT TOLLAGE.

In 1564, it is written, "That by the constitutions of the town for two hundred years and odd, the passage boats between Portsmouth and Gosport paid twelve pence a year for the better maintainance of the town and liberties, and as an acknowledgement of the rights of the corporation," the principal members of which, in most of the ancient royal mandates respecting naval affairs, are addressed as "Bailiffs of our Port of Portesmouth."

PORTSMOUTH ROYAL DOCK-YARD AND NAVAL ARSENAL.

"Every thing is here conducted on the grandest scale, and, abstractedly considered, the efforts of human industry appear too weak and impotent to achieve the vast and important works here displayed."

Origin of Portsmouth Dock Yard—From the volume of *Close Rolls* recently edited by the Record Commission, it may be inferred that the first establishment of the naval arsenal took place in the reign of King John—"The King to the Sheriff of Southampton, &c.—We order you without delay by the view of lawful men, to cause our Docks at Portsmouth to be inclosed with a good strong wall in such a manner as our beloved and faithful William Archdeacon of Taunton will tell you, for the preservation of our ships and galleys; and likewise to cause penthouses to be made to the same walls as the same Archdeacon will also tell you, in which all our ships' tackle may be safely kept; and use as much dispatch as you can in order that the same may be completed this summer, lest in the ensuing winter our ships and galleys and their rigging should

incur any damage by your default. And when we know the cost it shall be accounted to you—20th. May, 14 John, A.D. This record affords a curious example of priestly superintendence in English naval affairs.

For mayntening of the Great Ships' Dock at Portesmouth, and calkyng of all the ships, yt cannot be nerly esteemed; Rolls marked 14 B xxij-ij-iv. formerly in Henry the Eighth's Library. The expenses of the King's Shippes in 31 Hen. VIII. 1425*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* per month, 1613 seamen." Leland, in his Itinerary, says, "in the great Dock lay the ribs of the Henri Grace de Dieu, the biggest ship in hominum memoria.

A.D. 1650. This dock had no mast-house, no dry dock, not above one hundred shipwrights, and only one team of horses. A.D. 1661 "There was no dry dock in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, nor until the taking of Jamaica; only one hundred shipwrights and about forty or fifty labourers.—John Hatch was the builder, who left manuscripts to this effect."

In the Harleian Library is an account of his Majesty's New Docks at Portsmouth, principally designed for the accommodation of the first rank in the royal navy of England, setting forth the numerous properties of the dry dock, the several contrivances of the parts, and the usefulness of the whole design for the repairs and dispatch of all ship work, in a letter to the Navy Board, by the Surveyor of His Majesty's Navy in 1698, and subjoined are four very accurately drawn draughts of the docks.

The Grand Naval Arsenal of England, the rendezvous and headquarters of the British Navy, is the most capacious in the world, and every possible attention has been paid to the extension and improvement of it. The sea-wharf extends north and south on the western side of one of the noblest harbours in the universe: in length, three thousand five hundred feet; and the mean depth is two thousand feet; enclosing an area of nearly one hundred and twenty acres. The principal entrance is through a large pair of gates at the extremity of the Common Hard; on the right-hand side is a small portal for foot passengers; above which, on a stone slab, is the following inscription and date of the wall erected in the reign of Queen Anne, by which it is enclosed on the land-side. "This wall was begun on the 4th of June, and was finished on the 13th of December, 1711." It is of great height and thickness. Above the great gate are the initials G. R.; on the left a lofty flag-staff, on which is displayed, on state occasions, the Imperial Standard of the United Kingdom.

On entering the yard, the residence of the Warder presents it-

self; and on the opposite side, a lodge, furnished with seats for the accommodation of visitors. "The warder of the gate is not to permit any stranger, improper person, or foreigner, to pass the gate." Strangers often feel aggrieved at being refused admission, but it is better for visitors to obtain an order from the authorities, or take some respectable inhabitant of the towns with them. Visitors should be at the gates at ten o'clock precisely. On entering, they enter their names in a book; and the various objects are then pointed out by a proper attendant. The hours for inspection are from ten till three in summer, and from ten till two in winter.

The ranges of Mast-houses are on the left of the carriage-road, extending on an inclined plane to the water's edge of the harbour. A.D. 1770, July 17th, 3 a. m. a fire destroyed the mast and oar-houses, with the carpenters' shop, together with all the most valuable materials: the loss was incalculable, and never could be ascertained. In these sheds are manufactured the masts and yards for the Royal Navy; and here may be seen the masts of many celebrated ships, remarkable for being splintered by shot, or shattered by lightning. On the right appears a large square excavation, containing salt-water, and termed a mast-pond, used for preserving and seasoning timber. On the farther side of the pond, which has a communication with the harbour, are the mansions of the superintendant, &c. At the two ends of the mast-pond, locks are constructed for the stowing away mast-timber under water: and according to plans formed in 1764, and contracts made in 1773, a very large piece of new ground, till then overflowed by the sea, had begun to be enclosed and embanked for a second Mast-pond. This work was ordered to be discontinued in 1796, from reasons represented to the Admiralty. Had it been suffered to proceed at the same rate it did for the six years it was in progress, it would have required for completion 176 years, and the expense to the public would have been 132 millions.*

The new landing-place is near the mast-houses; this has been formed since 1830, at a great expense.

* "A. D. 1790, began driving piles at the south end of the watering-island and Common Hard, the head and dwarf stone wharf to the mast-house and slip, the wall returning eastward formed at this time. 1786, Stone piers for the new mast-pond, 4320*l*.—1787, Wharfs north side of new mast-pond, 4483*l*. Works continued, 3496*l*. 4*s*. 6*d*.—1792, Mast-house slip, 265*l*. 19*s*. 4*d*.—1793, Wharfs of the new pond, 2085*l*. 16*s*. 8*d*. Wharfs of the inner mast-pond, 3561*l*. 16*s*.—1794, Wharfs of the inner mast-pond, 4390*l*. 11*s*. 8*d*. North wharf to new mast-pond, 1689*l*. 7*s*. 2*d*.—1795, Works to the inner mast-pond, 4627*l*. 11*s*. 6*d*. Dwarf wall and slips outer mast-pond, 1400*l*. 16*s*. 8*d*. North wharf of the same, 1272*l*. 6*s*. 5*d*.—1796, Works continued, 1417*l*. 16*s*. 9*d*.—1797, North side of new mast-pond, 657*l*. 1*s*. 2*d*. For new mast-houses, and proceeding with locks in the mast-pond, 20,000*l*. North and south jetties, 16,000*l*. Mast-pond, mast-houses, locks, dams, &c. 20,000*l*.

The mast-houses have been much improved within these few years. Beyond the inner Mast-pond are several stores and enclosed yards : and in a line with these is the Anchor Depository, extending a great length, and paved : in this place are deposited the anchors of the Royal Navy to the number of hundreds ; they are arranged with regularity, and painted white to preserve them from the atmosphere. Many of these anchors weigh from ninety to ninety-five hundred weight each. A first-rate line of battle ship carries four such anchors, being in weight three hundred and sixty cwt, and of the value of one thousand six hundred and sixty-four pounds sterling ; besides several others of great size and proportionate value.

The next object of interest is the *Rope House*, three stories high, fifty-four feet wide, and one thousand and ninety-four in length. The perspective formed by the interior of this edifice has a singular effect : through the long vista the workmen appear diminished to dwarfs. The building is paved with cast-iron and tin, to prevent accidents by fire. The preparation of the hemp takes place in the upper stories, where it is spun into threads ; the cables are manufactured on the ground floor ; the work is so laborious (though lightened in every possible way by machinery,) that the workmen continue their labour but a few hours in the day. The engines by which the cables are made, are seen on entering the building. Some idea of the severity of the work may be formed from the following statement :—" The laying of a cable of twenty-three inches is performed by the simultaneous exertion of one hundred and eighty men, and requires upwards of an hour of the most strenuous exertion of strength especially on the part of those at the cranks, who not unfrequently burst a blood-vessel by the severity of the continued labour," The process of passing the yarns through the apertures of an iron plate, is performed by a steam engine (of six-horse power) of a peculiar construction.

Mr. Parsons, the master ropemaker of this Dock-yard, invented the improved tarring machine, the superiority of which, over the old plan of nippers, has been fully established : while it fully saturates the yarns, and prevents all excess of tar, it does not break a single thread, nor in the least impair any ; the consequent saving to the country must therefore be very great in this machine alone ; all the other machines used in the Dockyards, in the present improved system of rope-making, are of his invention.

NOLI ME TANGERE!!

His Serene Highness the Duke Charles Bernard of Saxe Weimar

attended by Majors Foriade and Auguste Grenier, arrived to view the Dock-yard.

January 4, 1819. The Grand Duke Maximilian of Austria, and suite, visited the Rope-house, when an unfortunate circumstance occurred to Count Hardigg, one of the suite, which was likely to have had a fatal result. The ropemakers being employed making a cable, the Count felt his curiosity greatly excited by tracing the operation of the yarn which designated the cable as being the property of the crown: when unthinkingly, he put his hand upon the strands, looking at the same moment at an object in another direction, and the strands as they went round, drew in his fingers and hand. An instant call to stop the machinery was as promptly obeyed, or his hand and arm would probably have been twisted off. His fingers were crushed, the back of his hand was torn up, and his shoulder was a little strained. The Grand Duke gave 60*l.* to be distributed to the workmen of the Dock-yard, and put about 17*l.* into the charity boxes, for the widows of men who had lost their lives by accidents whilst employed in the yard.

In the war three hundred and fifty ropemakers were constantly employed in this dockyard.

“ALL HAIL TO THE MONARCH OF ENGLAND.”

Whenever the Sovereign visits the town of Portsmouth in state, it is an ancient custom for the ropemakers of the Dock-yard to precede the royal carriage from the boundary of the borough, uniformly dressed, bearing white staves and the national flag, and wearing blue sashes across the shoulder. The last time the ceremony took place was on the visit of the Regent and the allied Sovereigns, in 1814. “On the nearer approach to the town, a large band of the Royal Dock Ropemakers according to ancient custom, habited in white jackets and nankeen trowsers, with purple sashes across their shoulders, ornamented with royal insignia, five conductors with short staves, the others bearing white wands, followed the cavalry, and preceded the Regent’s carriage. The procession was obliged to halt at short intervals of time, when three lengthened shouts burst from the Ropemakers, and the responding multitudes.”

The record now to infamy we turn.
Behold, where Britain’s naval treasures burn—
Portsmouth! the billows which thy Harbour lave
Reflect fell fires in every circling wave:
Aitkin, like him who fired th’ Ephesian fane,
In felon reputation shall remain:
Nay the Muse fears of treason you’ll attain her,
That Rogue for only naming, JACK THE PAINTER.
DIEDIN’S *History of England*.

The rope-house and buildings connected with it have repeatedly suffered from fires. A. D. 1760, July 3rd, at midnight, two of the principal stores, containing tar, oil, and turpentine, hemp and dry stores, were entirely destroyed by the effects of lightning during a storm : the damage was above 40,000*l*. A. D. 1770, July 27th, at five o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in the rope-house, destroying the tar and pitch stores, the laying and spinning-houses, and other valuable buildings ; bursting forth at four different places at once. The damage done amounted to 149,000*l*. The fire, which was generally considered the act of some incendiary, was not extinguished till three o'clock in the afternoon. A. D. 1776, December 7th, the destruction of the rope-house was effected by John Aitkin, alias Jack the Painter. The fire was at the time considered accidental, but a hollow piece of wood being found under some hemp in the following January, filled with combustibles covered with tin full of holes, and which had evidently been inflamed by a tube and match at one end, discovered the atrocious offender, who was taken, tried at Winchester, found guilty, led through the yard, and shown the devastation he had caused, and then executed on March 10th, 1777, at the dock gates, on a gibbet sixty-four feet and a half high (formed from the mizen-mast of the *Arethusa*,) and afterwards hung in chains on Block-house Beach. He acknowledged the justness of his sentence, was penitent, and decent in his behaviour, and advised the Government to be more vigilant. The damage done at this time amounted to 60,000*l*. Some sailors took the skeleton of this wretched man down some years after his execution, placed it in a sack, and left it in the chimney-corner of a public-house at Gosport.

Say who, 'gainst Albion's sacred land
Gave hostile foes a willing hand,
Obedient to their stern command ?

Why truly, Jack the Painter !

Who viewed with gladdened heart and eyes
The awful flames he bade arise
Tremendous through the midnight skies ?

Why truly, Jack the Painter !

By every loyal heart contemned,
Who was at Winchester condemned,
By rope and noose to find an end ?

Why truly, Jack the Painter !

Who (as in history I've read)
When 'mid the heaps of ruin led,
Proved a repentant renegade ?

Why truly, Jack the Painter !

Who, by the weight of guilt oppressed,
His deeds at Plymouth-Dock confess'd,
And how he meant to fire the rest ?

Why truly, Jack the Painter !

Whose corpse, by ponderous irons wrung,
 High upon Blockhouse Beach was hung,
 And long to every tempest swung ?
 Why truly, Jack the Painter's !

Whose bones, some years since taken down,
 Were brought in curious bag to town,
 And left in pledge for half-a-crown ?
 Why truly, Jack the Painter's !

The apparatus with which Jack the Painter attempted, and partly succeeded in setting fire to Portsmouth Dock yard, are still in existence, they consist of a pistol, gimlet, powder-flask, and bottle of turpentine, and were purchased from the widow of the constable who arrested John Atkin, alias James Hill, alias Jack the Painter, by Captain T. M. Bagnold, R. M. who presented them to the U. S. Museum with an autograph from Sir John Fielding the London Magistrate, relating to the ruffian's capture.

In a line behind the Docks extend the Officer's offices, erected by Messrs. Parlbys on June 6th, 1786, and finished in 1788, being a handsome range of brick buildings, with a large archway in the centre, fitted with every convenience, and commanding a view of the Docks.* Near these are the quadrangular stores, the joiners' shops saw-pits, &c. About fifty years ago there was a row of trees in the front of the old offices, which were built of wood, and very low ; and a stone pillar and globe (still in the masons' yard,) which acted as a sun-dial.

In parallel lines along the wharfs, are placed the two Sea Store-houses and the two Hemp-stores, magnificent brick erections, with doorways, window-sills, and Tuscan cornices of Portland stone, ex-

* "A. D. 1786, Works to offices, joiners' shops, and saw-pits, 960*l.*—1787, Offices, 5424*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; House-carpenters' shop, 2300*l.*—1788, Shops, 1280*l.*; offices, 1198*l.*—1789, Works to new stores at south end of officers' lodgings, 6328*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*—1790, New stores, 6777*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*—1791, Stores, 252*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*"

"A. D. 1777, February 18, Messrs. Templar, Parlbys, and Templar, contract for erecting the middle store fronting the Camber, together with a clock-cupola, and to take in hand the foundation of the intended rigging-house and store on the west side of the Camber, of materials mentioned in 1764, March 9th: the store to be two hundred and ten feet long and fifty-one feet broad; the old buildings on this site to be removed and the rubbish to be used in raising the new ground; the buildings to be of the Tuscan order.—1782-83-84, Works executed for the storehouses for fitted rigging, rigging-houses, and rigging stores, and the new south storehouse, 9000*l.*"

"1773, August 27, James Templar and Thomas Parlbys contract to carry on and complete all the wharfs of the Camber, Mast-pond, piers, &c. deepening it, setting the stone in terras, with gates at the extremities; to be lined with Portland stone; six hundred feet per year to be completed." Signed September 3, 1773. "Value of the works performed at the Camber wharfs, between May 16th, 1774, and September 27th, 1776, 14,493*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*; 1780-82-83-84, Works to the Camber, digging foundations, pumping, &c 20,807*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*; 1785, Works at the Camber, 480*l.*

tending eight hundred feet in length, and nearly sixty feet wide. Above the centre archway of these stores, a circular semaphore was in 1813 erected under the direction of the Honourable Sir George Grey, Bart. and Nicholas Vass, Esq. master house-carpenter of the arsenal: it is a landmark for ships at Spithead, and from the summit is a noble view. In a parallel line on the other side of the canal is a second range of Stores, the Rigging-house and Sail-loft, six hundred feet long, and of proportionate breadth; in the middle of the centre store is a tower, containing a clock, by which the time of the workmen is regulated.

The internal arrangement of these stores is convenient; and although the quantity of naval necessities is so immense, so great is the order that any article can be obtained at the shortest notice: archways afford means of communication from the several parts of the yard through these buildings. "Near the extremity, and in the centre of the present roadway, formerly stood a lofty wooden building, used for the original block-manufactory: there was a staircase to the summit, externally. I went to the top to see the explosion of the Boyne."

Between the ranges of storehouses there is a deep canal, faced with stone, and wharfs on each side, extending six hundred and sixty feet, and of capacity to admit merchant-ships bringing stores.

In the "*Collectanea Topographica*" No. 7, is an account of the burning of the Queen's Storehouses at Portsmouth, in 1557.

On the sea-side of the stores extend the wharfs, from the gates to the King's stairs, or landing-place: some portions of these wharfs were formed under the superintendence of the celebrated Smeaton; where the landing-place now is, was a hulk, called the Landing-hulk; many of the wharfs were formed towards the close of last century.*

In the centre of the wharf wall, facing the harbour, is the entrance into the great basin, whose dimensions are 380 by 260 feet, and its area two acres and an eighth. This basin was originally one third less than at present, but, under the superintendence of General Sir Samuel Bentham, (see his letter to the Admiralty, dated May 29th, 1795,) was rendered worthy the first British naval port.

* "1782-3-4, Works to the wharfs at the watering-island, 8131*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*; Wharfs at the landing-hulk, 4230*l.* 14*s.*; 1785, South wharf at the watering-island, 5350*l.* 8*s.* 4.; at the landing-hulk, 3400*l.*" 1787, Thomas Parlbly contracted to erect a stone wharf between the south dock and the landing-place. Expenses of the wharf in 1788, 2632*l.*; 1789, Dams for its erection, 1626*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* It was completed in April 1790.

The Admiralty order for carrying this work into execution is dated October 8, 1795, comprehending, first, an enlargement of the basin, the construction of two additional docks within the basin, and the formation of three long jetties, at an estimated expense of 231,000*l*.*

Ships of the line, at any draught of water at which they can come into the harbour, can, with all in, be fitted and equipped, even to the taking in of water, entirely within the boundaries of the Dock-yard; and such a degree of despatch has been obtained, that ships coming in from sea have been taken into dock even at neap tide, undergone repairs, and have sailed again for their station in as few days as the weeks, that were requisite for the performance of the same business before these accommodations were provided; and one dock has been made to answer the purpose for which three or four docks would otherwise have been requisite. Twelve ships are capable of being fitted at the Dock-yard at one time, and six ships may be undocked (one from each of the six docks), and six other ships taken into dock in the same tide; and this succession may be repeated without the least interference between ship and ship as fast as the ships last out of dock can be taken away to their moorings.

The entrance to the basin from the harbour is fitted with a floating caisson instead of gates. This dam in the shape of a Greenland boat fits at each extremity into proper grooves in the masonry. It is easy of repairs, affords a carriage-road at the top, and is opened and closed with facility. It was an invention of General Bentham.

Into the basin open four dry docks, and on each of its sides is a dry dock opening into the harbour; these are termed the South, North, North-east, and middle; North dock in the basin, and South dock in the basin.†

* "1796, Works to the wharfs, docks and basin, agreeable to General Bentham's plan, 14,973*l*. 9*s*. 5*d*.; 1797, the works continued, 19,839*l*. 18*s*. 2*d*.; 1798, the works continued, 22,149*l*. 14*s*. 2*d*. The dam opposite the entrance to the basin in order of formation, from September 24, to October 25, 1798. 1799, March 11, I laid the first stone of the inverted arch for the entrance to the great basin. (47,680*l*. voted by Parliament for carrying on these great national works.) 1799, Works to walls for the enlargement of the basin with a new entrance from the harbour, together with entrances to the two new docks, according to General Bentham's plan, 19,039*l*. 11*s*. 4*d*. 1800, Basin, removing earth, cleaning masonry, and constructing a dam, 1185*l*. 5*s*. 10*d*. 1801, works, taking out earth to the depth proposed, clearing away dam, and completing the granite walls of the great basin, 2540*l*. 5*s*. 8*d*. 1803, February 1. The basin still in progress of deepening to the amount of 2577½ yards; and altars, slips, drains, inverted archways forming."

† Some idea of the expense of their formation may be formed from the following estimates, extracted from the manuscripts of the contractors. 1790,

The Docks are, about twenty-two feet deep, and are lined with Portland and Purbeck stone; in the formation of them the beds of gravel forming the superstrata of the island were cut through, and the indurated clay beneath exposed, which will give some idea of the depth of the foundations. The communication of the docks and basin is by swinging gates, which open in the centre and lie flat against the side-walls of the entrance. Above the gates are foot-bridges of communication. Ships are taken into dock at high-tide, and the gates being closed and secured, the water is pumped out by the steam-engines, which, with two pumps, make eighteen strokes, raising twenty tons of water a minute, which passes into a reservoir. On the site of the basin was an ancient dock, formed of timber, and trunnelled together, the sides being formed of whole trees; on the removal of this, which was called Cromwell's Dock, many large stone cannon-balls were found.

“Old Dock of wood, length from head of the pier to the head of the dock, measured along the sides 330 feet on each side. The bottom of the dock 395 feet long; depth 22 feet; the wharfs on the outside of the piers 40 feet on each side; and depth 22 feet.”

Besides the docks above mentioned, there is a double-dock for frigates; the Camber head dock communicating with a basin two-hundred-and-fifty feet square, and the camber stern dock opening by a lock into the harbour. Previous to 1798, these docks consisted of a canal, terminating in a pond, the water flowing in and out at every tide: they were converted into their present form, at the suggestion of General Bentham. The sums of money paid for wharfs, &c. in this part of the yard are stated below.*

August 11. New Dock proposed. The earth removing this month. The south pier forming. 1790, works to the stone wharf, south pier, and dam of the new dock, 3330*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* 1791, December 31. Began driving foundation-piles for the south side of the new south dock. 1791, Expenses of the stone wharf, and south pier of the new dock, 11,400*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* 1792, March 3. Began setting Portland stone for the south side of the new dock. (The contract for its formation being-dated January 2, 1792.) 1792, works to the south dock, (average price 22*l.* 10*s.* per rod) 11,072*l.* 12*s.* 1793, works continued, 18,328*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* 1794, ditto, 13,952*l.* 2*s.* 1795, works continued at an expense of 1400*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* 1799, works continued, (25,000*l.* being voted by Parliament) 3548*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* 1800, new Parallel Dock formed, at 22*l.* 10*s.* per rod. 1800, works to the new south dock in the basin in this year, 21,981*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* Works to the southeast dock, consisting of excavations and masonry, 221*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* 1801, works to the south dock in the basin and drains, 9663*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*; and works to the new south-east dock in the basin and drains, 10,099*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* 1802, March 26. The east side of the south-east dock in the basin, the length sixty-feet, now in progress, works to the new south-east dock in the basin, 16,564*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* 1803-6. The tunnel and drain from the south-east-dock to the Mast-pond, now in progress.

* 1782-3-4, works to the boat-house channel, slip-way, &c. 2146*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, exclusive of discount.—1785, wharfs in front of the boat-house, 960*l.*; wharfs

Within these docks all the processes of ship-building and repair, take place, and in the basin, ships are received to be examined, with all their standing and running rigging. Within these few years the docks have been covered with roofs of wood and slating, from the designs of Sir Robert Seppings: light is admitted by numerous glazed windows in the roof, and the sides are supported by rows of wooden pillars. The cost of one of these roofs is between 6000*l.* and 7000*l.*; but the ship is found to be so much better preserved, as fully to warrant the expense. The most extraordinary appearance is the expanse of these roofs, and the absence of cross beams; they are supported on the principle of trussing. "For many years great expenses were incurred in the formation of a double dock, &c., the work was begun by an order of the Admiralty, on October the 10th, 1795; The nature of it was, a double dock for two ships of the line, a single graving dock, five jetties, and repairs to the original basin, at an estimated expense of 260,000*l.*: this work was afterwards superseded, by the enlargement of the basin."

A PRESENT FOR A QUEEN.

"Mr. Maitland, Master-rigger, presented her Royal Highness the Princess Victoria, with a model of a corvette of 22 guns, which her Royal Highness most graciously pleased to accept. On the Duchess of Kent and the Princess landing at the King's Stairs, at their Royal Highnesses request, Mr. Maitland had the honour of being introduced, when the Duchess and Princess expressed their thanks (which had been previously conveyed by letter) for the present, and their great admiration of it; a consideration which was acknowledged by Mr. Maitland, in a manner perfectly characteristic of the loyalty of this much esteemed and excellent old sailor. The model, a very beauti-

at the south end of the boat-pond, 480*l.*—1786, Stone wharfs at the east end of the boat-pond, (exclusive of discount,) 2886*l.*—1788, Wharf north side of the boat-pond, and works in the boat-house channel, 7080*l.*† Iron and boat-stores, 7584*l.*—1789, Iron and boat stores, 902*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* Wharfs at the south side of the boat-house channel, 1518*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*—1790, Wharfs for the boat-house channel, 1730*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*—1791, Wharfs continued, 2832*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*—1792, Wharfs continued with the formation of a dam, 1683*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*—1794, Boat-house channel, 82*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*—1795, Channel continued, 274*l.* 15*s.*—1796, Wharfs and slips on the south side of boat-house channel, 904*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*—1797, Wharfs and slip on the south side of the channel, 1349*l.* 10*s.*—1798, Works continued, 742*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*—1800, Works to the long dock in the boat-house channel, agreeable to Sir S. Bentham's plan, 1297*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*—1801, New works continued, 2003*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*—1802, Works continued, 193*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* the docks being in this year widened. These docks are intended for the reception of frigates and small ships of war.

A. D. 1777, July 26. New bottom and sides to the old north dock made at an expense of 13,883*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*

† This wharf on the north side of the boat-house channel, I began to work on August 16; and I began the foundations of Purbeck stone on September 2nd, 1788.—MSS. Rankin.

ful one, is on a half inch scale, rigged on the new establishment, with all her guns, anchors, cables, boats, running rigging, complete. Her length is 4 feet 7 inches : extreme breadth 1 foot $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The *Emerald* yacht was sent for it, and conveyed it to Norris Castle.

The mast for the sheers on the jetty of the Basin, was erected in 1835. Its dimensions are as follows, length of the mast 128 feet, (18 feet housed) diameter 44 inches, weight 25 tons, length of sheers 142 feet, derrick 147 feet, diameter of each 29 inches, a railway was laid down from the new mast house to these sheers in 1835: in 1837, a second pair of sheers were erected to the same mart and of like dimensions, which work over the harbour.

THE SHIPWRIGHTS OF 1775.

June 14, 1775. The shipwrights in the yard stood out for work, and went in again on the 21st : stood out again on the 28th.

“Wednesday the shipwrights at the Dock-yard left their work again, and came out of the yard, and they are determined not to return to work till their pay is increased to 2*s.* 6*d.* a day, exclusive of chips task work totally abolished ; and those men that were discharged last week, entered and put upon the same footing as themselves.”

The following was handed about by the shipwrights of his Majesty's Dock-yard, dedicated to the Gentlemen, Tradesmen, and Inhabitants of Gosport, Portsmouth, and Portsmouth-Common, July 1 :

“By order from the Hon. the Commissioner and principal Officers of his Majesty's Navy, directing the Shipwrights of his Majesty's Yard to perform a mode of work called task, and conscious to themselves, on the fullest conviction, it must occasion progressive suicide on our bodies, the destruction of our families, and the inhabitants in general : Another order already enforced at Plymouth, whereby any persons from sickness, or being wounded, should be obliged to continue one month at home, be discharged : these, with a daily increase of grievances, have reunited the Yards to apply for redress, but have received no satisfactory answer. We have therefore agreed not to enter the Yard till redressed. And it is humbly hoped the worthy inhabitants will assist in supporting us and families till relief is obtained, when it is hoped we shall be enabled to make our most grateful acknowledgments to each Benefactor, with a return agreeable to his subscription.”—The major part returned to work on the 7th and 12th of August.

LAUNCHING OF THE PRINCESS CHARLOTTE.

On Wednesday, September 14th, 1825, at twelve, his Majesty's ship *Princess Charlotte*, 110 guns (the largest ship ever built here) was launched, in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators, who saw this fabric glide into that element in which she was destined to float, in the perfectness of skill and science. The Prince Leopold came from Claremont, attended by Sir Robert Gardner and General Wetherall, purposely to witness the launch of the ship named after his consort. Whilst this event was passing, a terrific accident took place about ten minutes before the ship went off the slip. From the entrance of the dock-yard to the slip on which the *Princess Charlotte* was built, are three bridges, each seventy feet long. Connected with the first bridge is a spacious basin, into which it was intended the *Princess Charlotte*, on being launched, should be floated, to be coppered. An increased quantity of water had been let into the basin for the purpose. At twelve o'clock, this bridge was crowded with persons, when the weight of the water in the basin (agitated by the motion kept up on the bridge) pressed so against the dock-gates, that they broke into pieces, and the dock was filled by a rush of water, sweeping in its course the gates, bridge, rails, stages, and all on the bridge, excepting such only as were within a few feet of the extremities. A stupendous wave, mingled with fragments of timber, was dashed with fury against the farther end, and again rebounding ten or twelve feet above the level of the yard, again rushed back to fill the hollow created by its own velocity. Immediately afterwards appeared in different parts of the basin the sufferers, some in the agonies of death, others in a state of insensibility, and one or two apparently not much injured, but still exposed to the horrors of drowning, and of coming in contact with the pieces of timber, which the uproar of the water was dashing one against the other.

The bodies of many dead persons were taken to the surgery, and six persons with bruises only. Such was the nature of the accident, that not one of the inanimate persons presented the least appearance of suspended animation, they all had evidently been killed by bruises, from concussion against the sides of the dock. In the course of the night, eight more were grappled up; and on the following afternoon, the body of Mr. Deering, midshipman of his Majesty's ship *Victory*, was discovered in the basin.

On the day of the launch, the tide rose so rapidly and to so unusual a height that the ship was obliged to be launched sooner than was anticipated; the same great rise of water occasioned such a

powerful pressure against the gates of the south-east dock in the basin as to cause them to burst inwards and to carry with impetuous violence into the empty dock, the bridge which rested upon the gates, and the persons who were unfortunately passing over it at the time on their way to see the launch. The torrent of water which rushed into the vacant dock below, overwhelmed the unhappy individuals; and notwithstanding the active exertions of those who beheld the catastrophe, and of the boats which hastened to the spot, but few persons were rescued from their perilous situations.

No human foresight could have averted the dreadful calamity, it was entirely unconnected with the preparations made for the launch; and it happened at a time when providentially no persons were employed at work in the dock, for had that been the case, the disaster would have been tenfold greater.

GEORGE GREY, Commissioner.

Portsmouth Dock-Yard, 17th September, 1825.

The bodies were interred in Kingston church-yard on Sunday evening, attended by a large concourse of spectators. The accident was the subject of pulpit-addresses in most places of worship in the towns. A subscription was opened for the bereaved families.

Wells for the supply of her Majesty's fleets from the wharf-side, for the steam-engines, and for the purposes of the yard, were proposed by Sir Samuel Bentham, on October the 27th, 1801, and executed under his superintendence. The original supply not being adequate to the demand of two hundred tons daily, a new boring has been finished, eighteen inches in diameter. The water is obtained from a stratum of sand, at a depth of near three hundred feet, and is so abundant as to rise within twenty-five feet of the surface. For securing the dock from fire, an apparatus, was contrived and erected by Sir Samuel Bentham, between March the 20th, 1786, April the 17th, 1796, December the 21st, 1797; continued on October the 29th, 1799—1801-2, and completed on April the 8th, 1808: which consists of an elevated reservoir, into which water is raised by the steam-engines, and distributed by pipes (so arranged that the water flows by two different courses to the same point), passing by all the buildings, along the sides of the docks, and to the jetties; and means are also provided for raising, supplies of salt or fresh water, and forcing it over all the stores, buildings, and ships.

“1799.—Previous to this time, there existed in the centre of the yard, a square excavation, three quarters of an acre in extent, lined with masonry to a depth of thirty feet below the level of the yard,

used to receive the water when let run out of the docks, so that only five or six feet from the bottom was occasionally employed, but the twenty-five feet above, up to the level of the yard, were useless. This reservoir has been arched over, and above, cellars, stores, smiths'-shop, a seasoning-house for timber, the wood-mills and steam-engine houses have been erected, and the rest is useful for spreading timber, &c.*

MISCELLANEOUS OCCURRENCES.

1801, April 11. The steam-engine in the Dock-yard set to work for the first time.—May 16. The standard of the Invincibles landed here from Egypt.—June 13. The Dreadnought launched at this Dock-yard, after being thirteen years on the stocks; she was coppered in the short space of SIX HOURS, on a Sunday, and went out of harbour on the Monday following. July 1. Sixpence a day allowed the workmen in the Dock-yard instead of chips.

1797, December 21. On the occasion of a new set of pumps being required for clearing the docks, General Bentham proposed giving motion to them by a steam-engine; and one which had been erected at Redbridge was applied to the purpose, being the first steam-engine erected and used in Hampshire. Its advantages having been ascertained, one of the engines now used, was erected by Messrs. Bolton and Watt, in 1801, and first set to work on the 11th of April of that year; a second has been added to assist, if found necessary, or to substitute in case of accident. At a short distance from the docks are

THE WOOD MILLS.

In these buildings all manner of sawing, turning, boring, rabbeting, &c. are performed to the amount of above a hundred different articles of wood-work, from the boring of a pump forty feet in length, to the turning of a button for the handle of a drawer. The machines are impelled by steam, and the motions carried on by straps passing over drum-heads: all the engine work, and machinery, are so truly and firmly put together, and work with such accuracy, the only noise arises from the instruments actually in contact with the work under execution, and none from the working of the machinery. The iron work was made by Mawdsley, and is quite worthy of the invention.

* 1789, March 11, For taking down and rebuilding the north side of the reservoir, 10,000*l*.—May 16, Began digging the lock of the reservoir—1790, January the 7th, Laid the first stone of the north-east buttress; the north side of the reservoir which was in progress from August the 22nd, 1787, till 1790.—1790, Reservoir works, 79*l*. 11*s*. 7*d*.—1791, Works continued, 315*l*. 4*s*. 8*d*.—1791, Works to the north side of the reservoir, 7639*l*. 14*s*. 4*d*.

About 1802, Mr. Mark Joubard Brunell, machinist from America, having completed a working model of certain machines for making the shells and sheaves of blocks, and it being the intention of Government to introduce, at Portsmouth-yard, a set of machines for this purpose, General Bentham, did not hesitate to recommend it strongly, as an invention which would construct blocks of every description and size, with a degree of accuracy and cheapness hitherto unknown ; such parts of the engines as Brunell had completed were transferred to Portsmouth, and in the year 1804 were in operation ; but the increased number of machines, improvements which suggested themselves to the inventor, the application of engines for making dead-eyes, trucks, and all kinds of block-makers wares, circular and upright saws, lathes, engines for turning pins, riveting, polishing, &c, exercised his skill from September 1802 to June 1808, when he pronounced it complete in every part, incapable of farther improvement, and it now stands a monument to his ingenuity, and one of the most extraordinary pieces of mechanism in the world, consisting of forty-four engines. From that time they have been in full activity, without requiring alteration, little repair, and without the aid of the inventor, being attended by the workmen only. The quantity of blocks manufactured in one year is from 130,000 to 140,000, of all sorts and sizes, the total value of which is 50,000*l*. (of which a seventy-four-gun ship requires 1430) ; and though in the late war there were in commission one thousand sail of ships, this machine was fully adequate to the supply of the whole British navy and the Board of Ordnance, and could supply the greater part of the ships in the transport service. Four men are able to manufacture with the machinery as many blocks as fifty by the old method, and six men will furnish as many sheaves as before required sixty ; the manual labour required being only to supply the wood and remove the blocks from one engine to the other, until completed. Mr. Brunell received as compensation, for the working model 1000*l*, one guinea per day for six years, and the savings of one year as compared with the contract prices, calculated at 16,621*l*. Supposing, therefore, the cost of the building, steam-engine, machinery, interest of money, &c. to amount to 53,000*l*. and the net compensation for profits about 18,000*l*. on one year's manufactured articles of the value of 50,000*l*., the whole expense of the concern was cleared in four years.

THE BLOCK MACHINERY.

The first wing of the building is occupied by upright and circular saws, for converting rough timber into scantling ; squaring it, and crop-cutting it into

a number of parallelopipedons, whose lengths bear the required proportion to the thickness of the log, these pieces are again cut longitudinally, according to the thickness required for the shell of the block; and this operation is performed by a ripping-saw. The logs thus cut are taken into the second wing of the mills to the Boring-machine, which, by a centre bit applied to the middle of the shell, bores a hole for the centre pin of the sheave, whilst another bores one, two, or three holes at right angles with the first, to admit the first stroke of the chisel, and at the same time to serve for the head of the mortice, or mortices, according as the extended block is to contain one, two, or three sheaves. When thus bored, the log is carried from hence to the Morticing Machine, an ingenious piece of mechanism. The block being fixed on a moveable carriage, is so contrived as to be made to advance to the cutting-chisel, set fast in a moveable frame. Every time the frame, with the chisels, ascends, the block in its carriage advances a little, so as to present to the chisels a fresh surface of wood to be acted upon at each stroke of their descent; and this up-and-down motion is continued with such rapidity, that chisels make one hundred and thirty strokes in a minute, until the prescribed length has been morticed out; when by raising a handle, the machine is stopped precisely when the chisels stand at their greatest elevation, and are thus left in a position, ready to commence a second operation.—After this the blocks are taken to a Circular Saw, to have the corners taken off, by which they are reduced to an octagonal shape. This saw being fixed in a table the workman has nothing more to do than slide each log along the surface in the direction of the line marked out for the saw to cut it. The next operation is to place the block upon the Shaping-machine, one of the most effective contrivances in the whole of the Wood Mills. It consists principally of two equal and parallel circular wheels, moving on the same axis, to which one of them is firmly fixed, but on which the other is made to slide; so that these two wheels may be placed at any given distance from each other, and blocks of any size admitted between their two rims. For this purpose, both rims are divided into ten equal parts, for the reception of ten blocks, which are firmly and immovably fixed between the two wheels. When the double wheel with its ten attached blocks, is put in motion, the outer surfaces of the blocks, or those which are farthest from the centre, strike with great violence against the edge of a chisel or gouge, fixed in a moveable frame, which being made to slide in a curved direction, in the line of the axis, cuts those outward faces of the blocks to their proper curvature, which can be altered in any way the workman pleases, by a contrivance attached to the cutting tool. As soon as the tool has traversed the length of the block, or the space contained between the two peripheries of the wheels, the machine is thrown out of the gear, and its velocity checked. The ten blocks are then, by a single operation, and without removing them, each turned one fourth part round, and another fourth part of their surface brought outwards, which being exposed to the cutting instrument, traversing in the same direction as before, have the same curvature given to these new surfaces; a third is then turned outwards, and after that the fourth side, when the whole ten blocks are completely shaped, and ten other octagonal logs applied to the peripheries to undergo the same operation.

An iron guard is placed between the workman and machine, lest, from the velocity with which the wheels revolve, any of the blocks may be thrown off.

The shell of the block being now morticed, and completely shapen, the last operation is performed by the Scoring-machine, which, by cutters, scoops a groove round the longer diameter of the block, deepest at the ends, and vanishing to the central hole, for the pin on which the sheave turns. This groove is to receive the strap which surrounds the block.

The Sheaves are made of *Lignum Vitæ* invariably. The machinery, consisting first of a circular saw, for cutting the wood into proper thickness, these scales are next carried to the Crown Saw, which reduces them to a perfect circle, and bores the central hole. It is then placed in the Coaking-engine, the curious movements of which form three semicircles not concentric with each other, nor with the sheaves, but each having a centre equally distant from that of the sheaves. The manner in which the cutter traverses from each semicircle never fails to attract attention. So accurate is the groove cut for the reception

of the metallic coak, and so uniform are the latter cast in moulds, that they fit each other so nicely that a single tap from a hammer fixes the coak in its place. The sheave thus fitted, is taken to the Drilling-machine, kept in constant motion, and the moving drill speedily goes through the two coaks and the intermediate wood : a copper pin is then inserted into the holes thus drilled, and the sheave is applied under the Riveting Hammer, which strikes with greater or less velocity and power, according to the will of the workman. The riveting thus performed, the next operation is broaching the central hole on which the sheave turns by steel drills or cutters. The last operation is turning the groove for the rope round the periphery of the sheave, performed by a lathe, which performs this operation and at the same time polishes the surfaces or faces ; and this lathe can be adapted to the sheaves of any diameter.

The iron pins on which the sheaves turn within the mortices of the blocks are also made, turned, polished, and fixed by numerous engines in the first floor of the mills, and may be seen in full operation.

“ From the first introduction in 1805, for a period of eight years, this establishment, together with the Metal mills, and the Millwright’s establishment, were under the sole direction and management of Sir S. Bentham.”

Connected with the wood-mills is the Millwright’s establishment, where machinery of new kinds, improvements, repairs, plans, drawings, &c. are executed.

Mr. W. Kingston, master Mill-wright received, through Baron Fagel, a ring, composed of a fine topaz set round with diamonds, from his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, as a testimony of the sense his Majesty entertained of Mr. Kingston’s scientific skill ; and his attention displayed to the Dutch Naval Commission in their visit to this Dock-yard.

Along the edge of the harbour, extend

THE BUILDING-SLIPS.

and the varied scenes of “ Ship-building ” (1764. Messrs. Templar and Collard contract to complete and finish the works of the new Slips.) These slips for building are covered with immense roofs, in like manner as the docks, and are formed, together with the adjacent space for timber, on fourteen acres of land, taken about the middle of the last century (1765) from the mud lands,* and raised to a level. On the Western side there has likewise been added a considerable piece of land, on which the five spacious storehouses are erected. It is from this part of the yard that the imposing spectacle of the ship-launch takes place, at which time the public are admitted, galleries are erected for the nobility, the shores are gradually removed, the wheel is applied, expectation is excited to the highest pitch of interest, and at length, amid the shouts of thousands and the loud burst of martial music, the gigantic fabric, chris-

* On April 24, 1780, (being Monday) at four o’clock in the afternoon, began the piles for the enlargement of the new ground in his Majesty’s dock.

vened by the hand of one of England's daughters, or some noble of the land, rushes into her native element, to bear the meteor flag of Britain, and spread her fame and glory throughout the world.

The remaining portion of this part of the Arsenal, extending along the harbour to the fortifications, is appropriated to the cistern for seasoning timber, stone-masons' yards, saw-pits, stabling, coal-yards, and a large boat-house, fully supplied with every description of boat ready for instant service : and beyond this a lot-yard and stores for decayed timber, &c. which is sold under certain regulations.

At the landing-place, or King's stairs is a double flight of steps and a large guard-house where a company of marines are stationed.

THE METAL-MILLS AND COPPER-FOUNDRY,

Consist of an iron-mill, copper-mill, and a copper-refinery, at which is smelted and rolled all the old copper which is taken from the ships bottoms ; and here also are cast bolts, gudgeons, and various other articles of copper used in the navy. The number of sheets manufactured in one year of the war amounted to 300,000.

The copper is melted in vast furnaces of various forms, and after a series of preparation is rolled into long sheets by metallic rollers, set in motion by a steam-engine of fifty-six horse power. Thirty-five tons of ore have been manufactured in these mills in a single week. The immense furnaces in every direction ; the hues of the flames, from the deepest blue to the most intolerable blaze of incandescence ; the clouds of vapour ; the incessant roll of the fly-wheels of the steam-engine ; and the changes of the hues of the fluid metal, under various degrees of liquefaction—with the deafening tones produced by the immersions of the metal in water, keep the mind in a constant state of excitement. It requires 5123 sheets of copper to cover the bottom of a first-rate ship of war of one hundred and ten guns ; and 20 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. of counter-sunk nails to fasten them on, and twenty reams of paper, to be placed between the timber and the metal ; a ship of eighty guns requires 3388 sheets, and 25 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. of nails, with seventeen reams of paper ; and a ship of fifty guns, 2226 sheets, with 18 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lbs. of nails, and fourteen reams of paper.

1824, February. Sir Humphrey Davy, the President of the Royal

The wharfs and dams at the North boundary of the yard were begun November 9th, 1808, and finished May 16th, 1809 ; and the North, Middle, and South Building Slips, from April 8th, 1807, to July 4th, 1809.—1801, Works to North boundary walls and dam, 667*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*—1809, Building Slips, 5000*l.*—1838, New Slip built by Mr. Bramble.

Society, and Sir Robert Seppings, Surveyor of the Navy, engaged three days at this Dock-yard in directing experiments made at the bottoms of the Samarang, 28, and Manly gunbrig, which were taken into dock for the purpose ; likewise on four boats, coppered under their direction, with a view to ascertain, upon a large scale, the effect of the galvanic principle, for protecting the copper sheathing from corrosion, and, foulness. The plan was not found to answer the expectations formed of it.

THE SMITHERY, OR ANCHOR-FORGE.

Is on an extensive scale, fires of great magnitude, and masses of metal presenting a blaze of effulgence too vivid for the eye, and resounding under the ponderous sledges of the workmen, while the metallic scoriæ fly off in every direction. The Herculean forms of the artificers afford the finest models of human strength. In this Smithery, anchors are manufactured, many of them from 20 to 90 cwt., yet still in the most exact proportion. These masses are lifted on and off the fires by cranes ; and the bellows, which are hung in pairs, require machinery to use them. On first entering the manufactory, the blaze and roaring of the fires, and the incessant din, are truly awful. At a short distance from these works, extend in the form of a square, which is used as a repository for piles of timber, the Carpenters, Wheelwrights, and Joiners shops ; and opposite them, a broad paved terrace, surrounded by a dwarf wall, shaded by rows of trees, the residence of many of the officers. In the centre of the square, and opposite these buildings, stands, on a marble pedestal, the statue of William the Third, in the Roman costume, the gift of Col. Richard Norton, of Southwick-house ; it is enclosed with iron palisades, having at each angle the crown ; and on the pedestal is inscribed,

GULIELMO III.
Optimo Regi MDCCXVII,
Ricardus Norton humillime D. D.

Thursday, June 9, 1774. King William's effigy finished gilding.

THE GROANING TREE!!

1800, May 5. The bells in the house occupied by Mr. Rood, continued to ring most violently all day without any apparent cause which could be discovered, to the great alarm of the family and neighbourhood. So violent, indeed, was the motion of some of them, that they were actually forced from their fastenings in the wall. Strange and unaccountable noises were also heard at this,

and also at a house, No. 15, in Lombard-street, and at Mr. Peake's *in the Dock-yard*. The noises at the former were at one time a continued rapping, like a number of hammers at work; and at another, like the falling of some immense building, *whilst at the latter, continued groans appeared to issue from a large hollow tree near the house*. These occurrences took place only when a servant girl, who had lived in all these places, was present. *Portsmouth Paper, of that date.*

We now pass the Carver's shop and Mould-loft, in which the ornamental parts of naval architecture (the figure-heads, &c.) are manufactured; and near these, some other residences for officers.

At the entrance of the mould loft which is one hundred and forty feet long and thirty six feet wide, is placed the figure head of H.M. S. Bellerophon with a tablet beneath, written at the request of Sir Frederick Maitland, commemorative of the battles in which the ship was engaged, as also of the capture of the Emperor of the French.

From the reign of Charles the second, to the eighth of George the fourth. The following were surveyors of this dock-yard.

Sir William Batten.

July 1660.

Thomas Middleton, Esq.

Sir John Tippetts.

Edward Dumner, Esq.

Daniel Fuger, Esq.

William Lee, Esq.

Sir Jacob Ackworth.

Sir Joseph Allen.

Sir Thomas Slade.

William Bateley, Esq.

John Williams, Esq.

Edward Hunt, Esq.

Sir John Henslow.

Sir William Rule.

Joseph Tucker, Esq.

Sir Henry Peake.

Sir Robert Seppings.

During the war there were employed, fifteen hundred shipwrights, five hundred joiners and carpenters, two hundred smiths, two hundred and fifty sawyers, two hundred riggers, seven hundred labourers, three hundred and fifty ropemakers, at an expence of sixty thousand per annum. The number now employed is from two to three thousand besides officers, clerks, &c.

THE DOCK CHURCH.

1785, June 9th, Thomas Parlby, senior, and Thomas Parlby junior, and Co. contract to build a church, to be completed in the course of that year. It is a neat and elegant building, of the Venetian style of architecture. The front is surmounted with a columniated cupola, in which hangs the bell of the unfortunate Royal George. The windows in the lower tier are small, those in the upper very large; three in front, and six on each side, with a large Venetian and side windows to the square recess, in which stands

the communion-table. The whole interior is elegant, and remarkably light, and the galleries are disposed round three sides, with enclosed staircases near the front door. The pews are large and handsome, and the Admiral's is furnished with brass rails and curtains. The old dock church stood where now are situated the Admiral's gardens ; it was similar to Trinity Church, Gosport.

The church in the dock was originally built by a subscription of the resident commissioners, the officers and workmen, for their own accomodation, and was endowed by a voluntary deduction of their pay in perpetuity to the chaplain of the ordinary to officiate therein. On this establishment it continued for near a century : when it became from the enlargement of the dock necessary to remove the scite of it, government took down the old, and erected the present church at the public expense, upon a larger scale, and since then it has been always considered a place of public worship.

January 8, 1786. Last time of service being performed in the old Dock church, by the Rev. Mr. Bayley ; and the last prayer-day was on the Wednesday following.—March 10. The church pulled down. On February 4, was opened the new Dock church by the Rev. Mr. Browne ; the text from Job, third chapter, tenth verse.

On Sunday June 29th, 1794, their Majesties, the prince and princesses and court attended divine service in this church, prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Howell, and an elegant and loyal discourse was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Scott, from the text “ we will rejoice in thy salvation and in the name of our God we will set up our banners. The Portsea singers sung the coronation and other anthems, in the chorusses of which the Royal Family were observed to join, as did every one present ; after divine services, the court went to see the process of coppering the fine ship, the Prince of Wales, which *was completed in nine hours* ; on their return all the admirals and port captains of the channel fleet, dined with the king, and Sir Charles Saxton the commissioner was created a baronet.

1813, Charges preferred against Mr. Maybee and Sir George Grey, by the Rev. Dr. Scott of the Dock Church for a violation of the Conventicle Act of 1670 ; Mr. Maybee fully acquitted, it being merely a Sunday school : the charge against Sir G. Grey withdrawn, and Dr. Scotts services dispensed with, by Government.

In the Church is a very splendid monument to the memory of Sir Michael Seymour, Bart. K.C.B. who was commissioner of the Dock-yard, and died in South America, in 1834. It was erected to his memory by the ships crew of the Spartiate.

The School of Naval Architecture consists of a simple yet ele-

gant elevation of two stories, from the designs of Edward Hall, Esq. It was commenced in 1815, and finished in 1817. On the ground-floor, are elegant apartments, rooms for study, and a spacious hall; at the farther extremity are private apartments, with a lecture-room. On the upper floor, the model-room; infirmary, housekeeper's apartments, and a long range of sleeping-rooms, separated by a gallery. Below are spacious vaults, kitchens, &c. The stone staircases are of noble proportions, and the porticoes at each end of the edifice are much admired. The length of the building is 176 feet, breadth 45, height 36, and the whole interior is warmed by heated air, distributed through pipes.

Mr. Bonycastle, one of the students, has been appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy to a New College in Virginia, United States. He forfeited 500*l.* by forsaking the British service, after having obtained his education in it.

REGAL AND IMPERIAL VISITS.

June 22, 1773, at ten o'clock in the morning, King George III. arrived, under a salute of two hundred and thirty-two pieces of cannon, and returned on the Saturday following, with similar honours. He was received by all the men in the Dock-yard, having green boughs in their hats, and appearing at a distance like a walking wood, who gave him three cheers on his approach. He left 1500*l.* for the artificers of the different departments; 350*l.* to the seamen of the *Barfleur's* yacht; 250*l.* to the poor; and gave those in the Dock-yard a week's pay, and half a holiday every day.

June 4th, 1778, being his Majesty's birth-day, all the men of the dock, with the foremen, quartermen, converters, measurers, &c. walked in grand procession, with blue ribbons and laurel branches in their hats, and white wands in their hands: they went to the commissioner's house and round the yard from the officers'-houses, into town to the Governor's-house, out at the Landport-gate, so far as Mr. Friend's, by Mr. Evers mill, and having a heavy shower of rain, could not go round Kingstone, so turning back went down Queen-street and so along the Hard, drew up, gave three cheers, and went home.

1794. On the 25th June, his Royal Highness Prince Ernest Augustus and two of the young Princesses arrived here; and on the following day his Majesty George III. Queen, and the three other Princesses, arrived at the Commissioner's house in the Dock-yard, at eleven o'clock. The Royal visitors on the same day proceeded in their barges to Spithead, and went on board the *Queen Charlotte* under a grand salute from the garrison, forts, and fleet. They then

went round the fleet, and returned to the Commissioner's house. The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses were received on Friday the 27th, at the Governor's house. On Saturday, his Majesty and Royal party witnessed the launch of the Prince of Wales, 98 guns, took a second trip to Spithead, and went on board the *Amphion*, examined the Dock-yard, and on Monday left for Southampton.

THE PORT ADMIRAL'S HOUSE.

Previous to the erection of the original, or, as it was called, the Old Commissioner's House, the principal officers of the dock resided in Portsmouth. The first house for the Commissioner was commenced in the year 1664, and completed in 1666; it was situated on the north side of the old rope-house, and was that in which George the Third resided in 1773. This house not being large or convenient, a new and elegant mansion was erected, between 1782-86, on the site of the old church, at an expense of 20,000*l.*—the original estimate being 12,000*l.* It consists of a noble centre, with a handsome portico and two wings, the left or northernmost is appropriated to official offices; the private apartments are elegant and well-disposed. The front is separated from the yard by a range of iron-railing, with an approach for carriages, planted with shrubs and poplars. Before this roadway is a large square lawn, and in the rear of the house are extensive grounds and gardens, well planted and extending to the dock-wall. In this mansion the Emperor Alexander of Russia dwelt during the Royal and Imperial Visit in 1814. The Emperor arrived in the night of Wednesday June 22, and on Friday accompanied by the Regent, the King of Prussia, and a vast train of nobility viewed the Dock-yard and expressed his high approbation of the ingenuity, and order of the whole: at taking final leave, the Emperor presented Sir George Grey, his host on the occasion, with a ring of superb workmanship with the letter A in the centre, and the imperial crown over it set in large diamonds as a mark of esteem. In 1817, the Grand Duke Nicholas, (Emperor of Russia 1838) visited this arsenal.

At a short distance, on the right, is a large and handsome guard-house built in 1796, with a suite of apartments for the officers, and accommodation for a numerous body of soldiers; and near this stands the Pay Office, containing every convenience—the cash and record rooms being built of fire proof materials from a design of Sir Samuel Bentham; round the building extends a spacious piazza.

The Police Establishment of this Dock-yard consists (besides the

Superintendent) of three Inspectors, at 100*l.* per annum each three Sergeants and 36 Constables.

The Royal Naval College was founded by George the Second in 1720, and was much improved and enlarged under the auspices of George the Third, at whose particular request its original name of Royal Academy was changed. The building is of dark brick, and of very great extent, being in form of the letter H. and contains many noble apartments. Above the centre staircase, is a capacious dome surmounted by a gilt ball. In one of the appartments were some fine astronomical instruments, and a large orrery, made by the ingenious Mr. Wright. The superb model of the Victory (originally here) has been removed to the Navy-office, London. In the school-room was a large tablet of the arms of the City of Quebec, taken from above the principal gateway after its capture by General Wolfe. To the left of the Hall was the dining-room, communicating with the Professor's apartments, occupying the whole left wing. The apartments of the Lieutenant-governor were handsome and well disposed : to the left was a large hall, and a second noble room occupies the right wing ; behind extend ranges of apartments. This establishment was abolished in 1837.

THE ORDNANCE GUN-WHARF

Extends over a space of fourteen acres, along the northern edge of the haven, but is very irregular in its shape. This Gun-wharf was begun in 1662. The contractor for its construction was named William Shakespeare, and the excavations between Hanover and Union-streets, behind several parts of the old Rope Walk, extending even to Queen-street, were formed by the removal of the soil (by permission of the Corporation) for the purpose of raising the shores of the harbour to a certain level, much of the land being gained from the sea. The Shakespeare's Head, in Bishop-street, was so called from the workmen being paid there. The Storekeeper's old office, and two or three adjoining stores, were built in 1669, as appears from a date on the interior of one of the window-frames. The officers' houses, in front of which are several rows of lofty trees, and a pleasant green, enclosed by rails, &c. were erected in 1719. The centre house was formerly occupied by the officers of the Royal Artillery, and still retains its original title of "The Barracks." Behind these houses are large gardens, well stocked with fruit-trees, extending to the boundary wall at the Hard. Under the Duke of Richmond, Master-General of the Ordnance, the establishment was much enlarged and improved. The new Armoury, which presents

itself immediately on entering the gates (after passing the Mill Redoubt of the Garrison), was built by his direction in 1797, for the reception of 21,000 stand of arms. It is a handsome building of white brick and stone, covered with copper. He also directed the formation of the carriage storehouses on the green in the same year. The long sea-stores, for containing the various implements for shipping were formed at the commencement of the establishment. In front of these is a large building which in the war was appropriated to the reception of the battering-train, called the Commissariat Store. The whole of these buildings, together with a variety of carpenters' and smiths' shops, and an extensive wharf, constitute the old Gun-wharf, the entrance-gates of which form one of the boundary marks of the town of Portsea. These were rebuilt in 1807, previous to which time the entrance was through two archways on each side of a pair of large gates, on the piers of which were placed drums, and over each archway the Ordnance Arms: they were not so lofty as the present. The new Gun-wharf is united to the original establishment by a revolving bridge thrown across a canal or lake, which carries the water from the mill-dam.

During the mutiny at Spithead there was a strong battery made on the wharfs to protect the mouth of the harbour, and the gates were defended by mortars.

The civil establishment consists of a Storekeeper, Deputy-storekeeper, a number of gentlemen as clerks, and about 150 men.

Connecting the Gun-wharf and the Dockyard are large spaces called Timber pounds, on each side the Portsea Hard or landing-place; here is kept the timber for the use of the Arsenal; the space is familiarly known by the name of "The Logs" from the mode by which it is enclosed from the sea.

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
TOWN OF PORTSEA,

THE MUNICIPAL WARDS OF SAINT JOHN AND SAINT
GEORGE, PORTSMOUTH.

BY
HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.

PORTSMOUTH :
SOLD BY THE BOOKSELLERS.

THE TOWN OF PORTSEA.

“INFRA MUROS.”

“THE PRINCE OF DENMARK.”

In the early part of the reign of Queen Anne, in consequence of the great population of Portsmouth, arising from the increased importance of the navy, and the establishments connected with it, the shipwrights and artificers of the dock-yard *began* to build in the common field, then called West Dock Field. General Gibson, lieutenant-governor of Portsmouth, conceiving with the eye of a soldier that buildings so close to the town would considerably *mask* and otherwise interfere with the fortifications, sent an order to the persons who were building, commanding them to desist, accompanied with a threat that if they proceeded, he would point the guns of the garrison, and beat the houses down. Soon after this, the Queen, with Prince George of Denmark, visited Portsmouth, and while at the Commissioner's house, the shipwrights sent a deputation, with a memorial to the Queen on the subject. Her Majesty was in some measure disposed to leave the matter to the direction of the Governor, but the Prince interfering with good humour in behalf of the memorialists, the Governor was sent for, the matter soon arranged, and the builders met with no farther interruption; the houses, accordingly, from this time, went on rapidly, and, in gratitude to the Prince, the first street was named “Prince George's street.”

Portsea,* situate north of Portsmouth, is very extensive, and has arisen within the last hundred and thirty years, there being in 1700 only one hovel on a large common. On the edge of the harbour is

* The town of Portsea now covers what was, within the last century, an extended waste, and was till the passing of the Paving Act, 1792, generally known by the name of *Portsmouth Common*. The first part built was what are called ‘the New Buildings,’ at the farther extremity, where was formerly the entrance to the Dock-yard. During the American War the town increased with wonderful rapidity, and now exceeds Portsmouth in extent and population.

a range of houses called the Hard, [formerly the old buildings,] the principal road to the Dock ; and the Portsea landing place.

Here loyalty, on high, in gothic shrine,
Has caused our late illustrious Queen to shine.

The town is divided by a very long street, called Queen-street, extending from the Dock to the Lion-gate, from which several streets pass to the Old Rope-walk in right angles, viz. Union, Bishop, and Hanover-streets, White's-row ; to College-street, through the medium of Hawke and Havant-streets, and to Ordnance-row,

In line with which is found the busy hive,
Where Israel's sons their various traffic drive,
And many a gazing passenger is caught
With treasures rich as those from Egypt brought.

There is also a very large space of ground called St. George's-square, communicating with Queen-street by means of St. James's-street, and at the farther extremity with the road leading to Portsmouth along the edge of the moat. On the right-hand side of Queen-street is another part of Portsea, very extensive ; consisting of many streets, known by the names of Daniel, Cross, North, Prince George's, King, and Cumberland, with Chapel and Marlborough rows, consisting of private houses, and Frederick-street, narrow but of considerable length, leading to the water's edge : where the last is, was formerly a large rope-walk planted with trees, and provided with benches.

Beyond this is the part called " The Buildings," this is a small suburb or town in miniature, in front of which is a Hard ; and from hence is the usual place of embarkation to the ships in Ordinary.

" A burlesque ceremony of electing a Mayor and Corporation for the Buildings, formerly took place here annually with much buffoonery and licentiousness," as a festival on May day.

Boundaries of Portsea, olim Portsmouth Common :—

From the centre of the road, close to the gate leading from Portsea to the King's mill, (the Gun-wharf gate) along the mill pond of Mr. Legg's dam, at the north end of the mill pond there—thence excluding the said dam round the side of the mill pond, to Sir Thomas Ridge's dam, and thence along the end of the dam to the King's land—thence along a level line to the place where King-well-pound stood—thence along by Sir T. Ridge's starch-house, to the Portsmouth turnpike-road—thence across the road to Sir T. Ridge's malthouse—thence back again close along the malthouse and garden-wall to the King's-land opposite King-well-pound—thence round the eastern side of the King's-land to the sea at Flat-house, to the low-water mark there—then along low-water mark to Her Majesty's Dock-yard—thence round Her Majesty's Dock-yard, close to the sea, to the southern boundary of the Dock to low-water mark—thence to Her Majesty's Gun-wharf—then up to the high-water mark, close to the Gun-wharf—thence close to the wall of the Gun-wharf on the land side (excluding the Gun-wharf) to the centre of the gate (the Gun-wharf gate).

This space may be shortly defined as extending round the external Glacis of the Portsea lines, and low-water mark on the sea side.

Portsea was originally called Portsmouth Common, being erected on the waste lands of the corporation, and fields belonging to the College of Winchester ; much of the former will be enfranchised.

“1680, Theophilus Curtis, Esq. mayor of Portesmoth, and the alderman and burgesses, demise and bequeath to Thomas Burt and W. Cleverly, for nine hundred years, at a yearly rent of ten shillings and one fat capon, a piece of waste land, the most part sometime overflown with sea-water.” On this now stands Butcher-street.

Quit-rents and Leases. Mr. Howard said there were leases in all parts of the borough, most of them for a thousand years ; when they cease, they are renewed upon a fine. Has any lease been lately granted ? No, none since 1818. *Corporation Commission.*

In St. George's Square is an Obelisk and large Gas Lamp, presented by Messrs Barlow, brothers.

After the passing of the Parliamentary Reform bill, the whole of the square was converted into a dining-place, and many hundred people dined in the open air.

Evidence before the Commissioners : the Paving Acts. The first act for paving Portsea (then described as Portsmouth Common) was passed in the fourth year of the reign of George the Third ; a second act in 1792 ; and on the 5th of May, 1826, a third for improving the roadway, and lighting the streets with gas or oil.

The paving is done by contract ; 600*l.* per annum, is collected from the inhabitants before whose houses alterations and repairs are made ; besides this, there are five sixpenny rates in two years, which amount to 1300*l.* per annum ; this defrays the lighting, watching, and sundry expenses. The watching is now under the direction of the Town Council, and the watch-houses are on the hard, and near St. George's Church in the square.

FORTIFICATIONS OF PORTSEA.

Under the direction of the late General Fisher, the works were much improved, and new sluices and towers erected in the moats ; a deep and wide fosse was cut from the Portsmouth-works, along the edge of the London-road to the Mill-dam, [a large sheet of water of many acres in extent,] by which fosse the New Fortifications round Portsea are united with the old works, These gigantic Ram-parts, which encircle the town in a semicircular form and extend for nearly two miles in all the strength of modern improvement, were commenced in 1770, under the direction, and at the suggestion of

the Duke of Richmond, who received many valuable hints from the celebrated Major Cartwright. The first regiment employed was the 23rd. The walls are of great height, and the ditches and ravelins of vast extent, with covered ways, and lines in all directions. The various bastions are much larger than those of Portsmouth, and in the internal angles are extensive paddocks of pasture land, and a parade ground. The whole are thickly studded with thriving timber, which adds, by the luxuriance of its foliage, to the beauty of the place. In the lines are two magnificent gates, called the Lion and Unicorn gates, from the respective figures in the entablature. The architecture, both on the internal and external part, is bold, grand and effective. These Ramparts pass close to the inner part of the harbour, and completely defend the arsenal. One of the bastions in the mill-dam presents a beautiful appearance at the time of high-water: and the lake (which was formerly of at least double the extent, reaching to Lake-lane at Halfway Houses) adds much to the strength of the garrison. A new stone Bridge has been thrown across a part of this lake, communicating with Portsea from the London turnpike-road; and the bridges before the principal gates are of cast iron, erected 1827-8. The external glacis, of many acres in circumference, was formerly pasture land, belonging to Sir Thomas Ridge, whose house is at this time the residence of the Commandant of the Artillery, opposite Ridge's Pond. At the corner of the lake close to the London road, about four hundred yards from the Land-port, formerly stood a small chapel, called Magdalen Chapel; not many years since some visible traces remained. Where the Mill-dam reaches the Gun-wharf, is a large bastion, with gateways leading to Portsea; this may be rather considered an outwork of the Portsmouth Lines; it is strong, and defends the King's-mill and the canal of the Gun-wharf. The Ordnance erected a broad road-way, from near this Bastion, to the new offices on the Mill-dam Parade, using the materials of the old Government-house, in 1829.

Beyond the Unicorn gate, in a large paddock, and surrounded by gardens, &c. is the Royal Laboratory, the manufactory for cartridges for the army. On the Mill-dam is a large brick building erected a few years ago, as the offices of the Royal Engineer department: within, it is very convenient and well adapted. This building is erected on ground gained from the Mill-dam; and the extensive space behind, enclosed by high walls, was in 1800, also overflowed daily by the tide. The principal military stations are, a guard near the King's-mill, some larger ones at the principal gateways, and at stated parts of the Dock-yard, at Bonfire corner, &c. The Military

Hospital, a small wooden erection, is in an open space near the Lion-gate; a new building has lately been added to it. Behind this hospital, were, during the war, very extensive barracks; being of wood, they were sold and entirely removed in 1816. In 1758-9, "Government purchased sixteen acres, three roods, and twenty rods of marsh land, near Portsea lake, called the Great Marsh, from William Pike, Esq.; and also certain pasture lands, gardens and cottages, near the same; also sixteen acres, two roods and twenty-three rods of land, called Breach, and certain garden ground, and a tenement called Griffin's Tenement barn, and yard in the possession of William Watmore; also two acres three roods, thirty-one rods, part of a close called Moor Close or Morrice Close; also two acres, three roods and one rod, part of a close called Hambrook; also one acre, three roods, and twenty rods, part of a close called Haven's Croft,—the last three pieces of land being in Portsea, near the Fortifications of Portsmouth."

1759, April 10. For compensation to the proprietors of land near Portsmouth, purchased for securing the Dock 6937*l.* 13*s.* 7½*d.* Interest of ditto, 4159*l.* 4*s.* 8½*d.*; In the session of Parliament for 1759, 36,966*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* were voted for the defences of various docks; and in the year following, 1760, the House took into consideration the claims of the proprietors of the lands. Upon which a bill being founded, soon passed into a law, without opposition, in the year 1761. Doubts and difficulties having arisen touching the execution of the said act, Parliament voted 634*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* for interest on the sum of 23,800*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* remaining in the Office of Ordnance, and not paid into the hands of the Deputy of the King's Remembrancer of the Court of Exchequer.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

	Rate Payers	Amt. of Rating
<i>St. John's Ward, or Portsea North</i> —(six Councillors.)—The north side of Queen-street, in a line from the Lion Gates to the Dock-gates, including the Dock-yard.	1,300	9,346
<i>St. George's Ward, or Portsea South</i> —(six Councillors.)—The south side of Queen-street, in a line from Lion Gates to the Dock-gates, including the Old Gun-wharf.	1,501	11,209

The elections of Members of Parliament for the Borough takes place in booths erected in Saint George's Square.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY, CHURCHES, CHAPELS, &c.

Church Accommodation in Portsea.

From a representation laid before his Majesty in 1835, it appears that St. George's Church, 1000 persons, without any free seats : Saint John's Church 1600 persons, and 200 seats appropriated to the poor.

SAINT JOHN'S DISTRICT.

Is thus described in the order of council of March 4th, 1835, with the consent and under the seal of the bishop of Winchester. The boundary to commence at the Lion Ravelin Gate, to be drawn through the centre of Queen Street, and to continue along the wall of the Dock-yard, westward to the harbour ending at the Dock-yard gates, to comprise the Dock-yard and to be bounded on the west and north sides by the harbour, and on the east side by the boundary of All Saints district, ending at the Lion Ravelin Gate.

By this order Baptisms and Churchings may be performed in this and the other district churches. One moiety of the fees for the same belonging respectively to the minister of the district church.

THE CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE.

In the centre of the square at Portsea, to which it has given a name, built by subscription, under the provisions of an act of parliament in 1753. It is a handsome well-built brick structure, sixty-four feet square, containing two tiers of five large windows, and a noble Venetian window behind the communion-table. The interior is neat and well adapted; four elegant pillars support the centre; it is well pewed, and the galleries are arranged on three sides, in the front one of which was erected in 1773 a beautiful and well-toned organ. It has lately undergone repair, more especially the front, and cupola above. The whole is enclosed by a lofty wall and gates, The ground was granted by the Corporation of Portsmouth for one thousand years. The nomination of the clergyman is vested in the vicar of Portsea; but in case of lapse, in the proprietors of the seats. John Ring, Esq. of Portsea, left 50*l.* to Crapp's charity, which is attached to St. George's Church, Portsea.

THE CHURCH OF SAINT JOHN.

In Prince George's-street, Portsea, was erected by subscription in 1787, and consecrated by the Bishop of Winchester in 1789. Externally it presents a fine elevation, the front embellished with a Venetian window and fan-light over the entrance. The two stories

on either side have each two elegant windows and wings containing the staircases; and there is a clock and bell in a lofty cupola above the entrance. The interior is in the florid style of Venetian architecture. In four of the six compartments dividing the side-walls, are large sash-windows, both above and below; a spacious gallery, supported by small columns and enlightened by a large window, extends round three sides; the communion-table, which is of marble, is in a semicircular recess, separated by a screen of fluted Corinthian columns from the body of the church, and on each side are doors leading to the vestry and organ-gallery above, in which is a noble instrument. The recess is decorated in imitation of marble, and on the pannels are appropriate scriptural texts, &c. The cornices and pannels are of stucco, and the arched ceiling is supported by four Corinthian columns, with their acanthus, &c.: the cornices are decorative and appropriate; while the chandeliers, elegant pulpit and reading-desk, and the pews adorned with mahogany, render this fabric impressive to every person of real taste. Attached is a residence for the minister, in the same style of architecture. It was projected and erected by two architects John Monday and John Sheen, from designs of Mr. Vass, an officer of the dock-yard.

June 4, being his Majesty's birth day, the foundation stone of St. John's church, in Prince George's-street, was laid at eleven o'clock A.M. by the Rev. — Bollard, Vicar of Portsea.

Expenses of Building the Church, (from a copy of the Contract.)
 Bricklayers' work 969*l.* 8*s.* Plasterers' work (including ornaments of the ceiling valued at ten pounds) 134*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* Stone Masons' work, including Marble Slab, for the communion table, and the marble font valued at 9*l.* 5*s.*—394*l.* 10*s.* Slaters' work 231*l.* Plumbers' work 23*l.* 2*s.* Glaziers 78*l.* 4*s.* Painters 92*l.* 9*s.* Smiths, including bell 107*l.* Carpenters including the pulpit, valued fifty pounds, and the cupola valued one hundred pounds 1954*l.* 6*s.* organ and act of parliament 500*l.* the Communion Plate 40*l.* Pulpit cloth, curtains, &c. 38*l.* Consecration 18*l.* Surveyor 100*l.* Chandeliers 46*l.* the land and conveyance 1872*l.* cleaning 1*l.* Minister's house 350*l.* total 6966*l.*

1822, January 25. The Rev. William Stevens Dusautoy, Clerk, unanimously nominated and presented to the perpetual curacy of St. John's Chapel, Portsea, by the proprietors thereof; and appointed Lecturer of the said Chapel; both void by the death of the late Rev William Howell. He was succeeded by the Rev. Edmund Dewdney.

The Church of the Roman Catholic faith is in Prince George's-street, near the church of St. John. It is a small building, and has been erected about forty-five years. Above the high altar is a fine

picture. in a noble gilt frame, of "Christ stilling the tempest," painted by Sir Robert Kerr Porter ; and in the gallery is a neat organ. Attached to this church is a residence for the officiating priest.

—Kerr Porter ! here thy skill
Has to dull canvass given form and life :
With out-stretched hand, and eye devoutly raised
Lo ! the Redeemer stills the boisterous waves.
And bids the roaring tempest sink in sleep !

In Daniel-street, is a large chapel, purchased by the "Methodists" a few years since, and still used by them. It is a neat, white brick building. Over the principal front was, a short time since, a square cupola, with a gigantic figure of St. Peter, holding in his hand a key—from which the chapel acquired the name of "St. Peter's." It was originally a free church, erected by subscription for the use of an eccentric clergyman, named Pennington, who had attracted many followers : first by preaching in the open air, and afterwards in a private room. The Church of England forms were adhered to, but the church was exempt from episcopal jurisdiction. In it was an organ, remarkable for the peculiar beauty of its tone : it was sold for a trifling sum when the church was purchased by the Wesleyan Methodists. A new one has been lately erected, but it will bear no comparison with the original instrument.

On Monday, October 1, began digging the foundation of Mr. Pennington's chapel, in Daniel-street, which was opened for divine service on Sunday the 30th of March, 1780.

There are several other chapels :—Two of the *Particular Baptists*—the neat and spacious one in *Meeting-House Alley*, of which Mr. D. Miall, was long Pastor ; and another in *White's-Row* ; with both of which are connected Schools and other benevolent institutions.

April 29, 1782, On Monday, the new Baptist Meeting-house in White's-row on the common, was commenced, the foundation being laid, and its was consecrated on Wednesday morning, October. 30, in this year.

The old Concert Room in the Square is now a chapel.

Mr. Daniel Miall, aged 87 years, one of the oldest inhabitants of the town, and Pastor of the Baptist Church in Meeting-house-alley : was one of the most laborious and useful Ministers of his day, and the estimation in which he was held was evinced by the attendance of some thousands of the inhabitants to witness his funeral, which took place at the Cemetery, where his remains were deposited, in a new vault, the pall was supported by six Ministers.

In White's-row, is the Jewish Synagogue, founded originally in A. M. 5502 (1742,) by subscription of the then small congregation, acting principally on the suggestion of Abraham Woelfe. It was rebuilt in A. M. 5540 (1780,) on a larger and much handsomer scale; the date being on a large stone in front of the edifice. The interior is adorned with gilding, six elegant chandeliers, and brazen candlesticks. The ark (in the centre of which are the tables of the law) is of solid mahogany, surrounded by mahogany rails, and erected at an expense of 200*l*. In the centre of the building is the reading-desk and elders' seats, surrounded with mahogany rails; a gallery above is appropriated for females, in front of which is a clock, and the King's arms. The seats of the chapel will accommodate two hundred persons; and attached is a large and elegant vestry-room. Service is performed here three times on each Saturday, and twice on every other day. The Jewish burial-ground is about a mile to the eastward of the town.

On March 22, 1812. The foundation-stone of a new Independent Chapel was laid in King-street, Portsea, by the Rev. JOHN GRIFFIN, whose increased Congregation, in Orange-street Chapel, occasioned the necessity for the building.

September 2: The spacious new Chapel, erected in King-street, Portsea, opened on Wednesday, the Rev. W. Jay, of Bath, and the Rev. Rowland Hill, of Surrey Chapel, preached on the occasion; after which upwards of 350*l*. were collected in aid of the funds of the Chapel. The Hampshire Association of Independent Ministers, for sending teachers into villages that are destitute of religious instruction, was held the next day; the Rev. D. Bogue preached: 62*l*. were collected. A meeting of Sunday School teachers of poor children was held in the morning, at the Old Chapel, in Orange-street; and after their business was transacted, upwards of a thousand teachers and their friends breakfasted together, Mr. Johnson, of Farnham, in the chair: the son of Touissant L'Overture, Governor of St. Domingo, who had embraced Christianity, addressed the company; there were four thousand persons in and round the Chapel: several hundreds went away, unable to obtain admittance.

The present minister is the Rev. T. Cousins: the Chapel is a very large and lofty structure, ninety-five feet long, and seventy-five broad. It will seat two thousand five hundred hearers, and contain, when crowded, three thousand. The expense of its erection was between 10 and 11,000*l*.; and it was opened for public worship on September 8, 1813.

The old chapel in Orange-street has been converted into Sunday

school-rooms and alms-houses, for the poor of the congregation principally from the success of a Bazaar at the Beneficial Society's Hall, 158^l. were received for admission and articles sold, which enabled the Trustees to render the apartments safe and comfortable for the aged inmates, and to perpetuate the use of the building for many years to come.

THE FUNERAL OF THE REV. J. GRIFFIN

On April 26, 1834. The solemnities commenced by the body being removed to the chapel in King-street, hung round with the insignia of mourning. The body was placed beneath the pulpit, and the service commenced by singing, prayer offered, and, a pathetic funeral oration; the coffin was removed, and the procession then left for the burial ground.

Two chariots containing the professional friends of the deceased, preceded the hearse, followed by eight mourning coaches, containing, the family of the deceased; Pall Bearers: senior Ministers, Deacons, Ministers and Members of the Hants Association, Ministers of other denominations, Members of the Congregation.

As the corpse passed the gates of the town, the guard being out, presented arms, in honor of one whose excellence was testified by the multitudes that were following him. On reaching the burial ground, the procession was met by the Vicar, (the Rev. C. B. Hen-ville, M.A.) who read the funeral service. The solemnities being closed, the same order was observed in returning. Nearly every house was closed in the different streets through which the mournful spectacle moved, and the crowds on the tops of the houses, at the windows, and lining all the streets, evinced the interest felt in the loss of so good a man. In the evening, a crowded auditory assembled, when, after singing, and prayer offered, a most eloquent sermon was preached, from Numbers, xx chapter, 25th, and following verses; the service was closed by prayer.

The character of the Rev. J. Griffin. He was a man, in whom the principles of religion, appeared in all their excellence. The solidity of his judgment, the simplicity of his style, the sincerity of his manner, the pathos of his address, aided by a voice rich and harmonious in its accents, the scriptural nature of his discourses, rendered him the object of popularity for forty years; and when infirmity appeared, he was heard with delight, by thousands, who bore evidence of affectionate regard, by a constant attendance in his ministry. No one ever filled an extensive sphere of influence with a more consistent character.

THE HALL OF THE BENEFICIAL SOCIETY.

In the Old Rope-walk, Portsea, stands the Hall of the Beneficial Society, erected from the funds of the society by Messrs. Sheen and Munday, from a design of Mr. Hay the naturalist.

The site of this building was originally a large pond and swamp, which with a long rope-walk extended to Queen-street.

1785, April 7, on Thursday morning the foundation of the Beneficial Society's Hall laid; and the society first walked in procession to the new chapel on October 14, when Mr. Shaw officiated and the Vicar Preached.—November 15, the first grand concert of vocal and instrumental music was performed in this hall, and the school was opened January 9, 1786.

It is a truly noble building, consisting of a magnificent hall of great extent, long, lofty, and lighted by a range of windows on one side, and a fine Venetian window at the extremity. The rooms below are appropriated to a school-room for the education of a great number of children. The society is one of the oldest in the kingdom, and among its members are many of the most respectable persons in the neighbourhood and county. The anniversary is held on the first Monday in October, when, after attending divine service at St. George's church, and the customary business of the day being gone through, the members partake of a splendid banquet. At other times the hall is used for concerts, public meetings, balls, &c.

July 24, 1836. The foundation stone of the new building to form part of the hall and school, laid by E. Carter, Esq. Mayor: on this occasion (being their first appearance in public) the new Corporation appeared without the robes of office, in honor of the principle of the municipal act, certainly not in honor of their corporate capacity. Mayor, aldermen and burgesses, were mingled in one tumultuous throng of people, who not knowing how to distinguish those who had been invited to honour the occasion, behaved, as the mob always will, with much rudeness.

The hall has been materially altered within these few years, the ceiling coved and elevated, and the interior rendered much more ornamental from designs by Mr. Courtney; a convenient gallery has been erected at one end, and it is lighted by three large gas chandeliers in the style called "à la Louis Quatorze."

There is on one side a large portrait of the Sailor King, (William IV.) from the easel of the late Mr. Cole: a portrait of Sir John Carter presented by D. Howard Esq. and a second of Dr. Porter. Slabs of lettered marble in the walls commemorate donations.

AN abstract from the return of Schools, in the parish of Portsea, made by order of Government.—Sunday schools connected with the Established Church, five, containing 751 children; Independents, four, containing 840 children; Baptists, seven, 1414 children; Methodists, five, containing 1027 children.—Total, 24 schools, containing 4219 children.—Charity and private day schools, 174, containing 4653 scholars.—Number of Inhabitants, 38,199.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

In February 1825, were issued prospectuses with a view to its formation, of which the following is a copy.

"Institutions for the instruction of mechanics, in the philosophical principles of the arts they practise, have been formed in London, and several of the principal towns; the happiest results having arisen from them. The mechanics of these towns and neighbourhood, who may wish to see a Mechanics' Institute established, are invited to leave their names at the residence of Henry and Julian Slight, Surgeons,, of whom farther particulars may be obtained; and if there should appear, as the result of this invitation, a probability of success in so desirable an object—that the *mechanics* themselves are anxious for such an institution, *and that they will support it*—a meeting will be called, for submitting a plan for such an Institute.

But a few days have elapsed, since, by means of our circular, proposals for the formation of a Mechanics' Institute or School of Arts have been made public; we have received the names of so many Master Manufacturers, Mechanics and Apprentices, that the appeal has been answered. A meeting will be called and care taken, that those who have already and who shall hereafter favour us with their names—are well advertized when and where it is held.

HENRY & JULIAN SLIGHT, 100, High-street: Saturday Evening, February 12, 1825."

Shortly after this a Public Meeting was held, certain laws adopted, and on the 24th of October, Daniel Howard, Esq. delivered the introductory lecture. The sessions are from November to March; a library is established for the use of the members, and lectures are delivered on every Monday evening. This institution was originally held in the old Town-hall Portsmouth; but on its being sold, was removed to its present situation the old synagogue in Daniel-street, a place afterwards occupied by a preacher, whose eccentricities may perhaps be judged of by the following paragraphs.

The Minister of the Independent chapel, Daniel-street, Portsea, intends delivering *Two Lectures* in his chapel, to demonstrate the truth of *Christianity*, in opposition to *Infidelity*.—The first, on Wednesday January 20th. at seven in the evening; the second, the Wednesday following. This gentleman (who has been all his life in the Army and Navy) possesses considerable natural talent, but from want of a more spacious place of worship, his energies are completely cramped.—The new edition of his interesting memoirs may be had at 49 Queen-street, Portsea, price 1s. 6d. It is called "*The Wonder! or the Life of Isaac Carter*—written by himself."

THE HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY

In the rooms of the Society, in Ordnance-row. This Institution has been established 37 years. The first President was Sir John Carter. At a cost of nearly 3000*l.* an extensive and valuable Library has been gradually accumulating. While part of the income is expended on the lighter miscellaneous Literature of the day, including the most popular Magazines and Reviews, a greater part is appropriated to the purchase of standard authors in every branch of knowledge.

Near the library are Medical establishments for the relief of the poor, supported by voluntary subscriptions.

Branches of the Royal Humane; the Naval and Military Bible; Society for promoting Christian Knowledge; Ladies' Benevolent Institution; Missionary Societies of all denominations; Infant Schools; Seamen's Bethel; Hampshire Benefit Society, and many other charitable institutions, exist in the town.

There are several Breweries in Portsea, the principal being Mr. Spicer's (formerly Temples) which covers a large space of ground near St. George's Square.

There are eighty-six taverns and public houses within the walls, according to the licences granted in 1837, and about a like number of beer shops.

Licensing System before 1836, from the Parliamentary inquiry.

There was dissatisfaction under the close system of granting licenses for public-houses, in consequence of the Aldermen taking care of themselves and could influence the other Magistrates. The Carters are brewers, and nearly the whole of the Aldermen related to that family concerned in that brewery.

No new licenses granted to the Carter family within the last 30 years: after the war, in order to decrease the number of public-houses, a rule was laid down that certificates should be refused to those houses which had not been licensed by the Excise for one year? That rule applied fairly; it fell upon the firm of Carter. There were 12 licenses stopped, and seven belonged to that firm.

Mr. E. Carter,—We had seven licenses out of 12 stopped; if you call that favour, I don't know what favour is. Mr. Atkins,—Will you state the number of your houses? Mr. Carter,—About 65 or 70. Mr. Atkins.—Taking the number at 63, he ought to have nine stopped instead of seven. He considered the rule laid down a fair rule, but his house from which a certificate had been withheld, did not fall within the spirit of that rule. If he had known of the rule he could have prevented the license being stopped. Mr. E. Carter. "And so would I, you may depend upon it; but I knew nothing of the rule till it was applied."

Mr. Howard. "The rule was strictly carried into effect; was not aware of any complaint at the time—We applied the rule without the least regard to persons, it applied most heavily on the Carters. The rule has not turned out less injuriously to the Carter family than to others."

Mr. Atkins.—They had 63; in the same proportion they ought to have lost nine.

Within the last 25 years there had been licenses transferred ; but no new licenses given, except in lieu of another. Application made, and refused.

Mr. Lang agreed in the propriety of reducing the number of public-houses in Portsmouth : but in Southsea, an extension would be beneficial. Did not agree that the rule laid down by the Magistrates was good.

Mr. Howard was not aware of any situation that demanded them for the public accommodation.

1837. New licenses have been of late granted by the Magistrates.

The principal Shops are in Queen-street, on the Hard, and in the neighbourhood of Butcher-street and the old Rope-walk.

THE PORTSEA VOLUNTEERS.

1797. On Monday April 18. The loyal independent Volunteers assembled in full regimentals at the Beneficial Society's hall, when the oaths were administered by Sir John Carter and J. Godwen, Esq. They then proceeded to St. John's Church, where the Rev. W. Howell preached, according to the account, the procession was very splendid, and as a matter of local curiosity, the dress is subjoined ; round black hat with a band of bear fur over it, white feather with red top, black cockade, black stock, scarlet coat with gold wings, and blue collar, and the button holes edged with gold, the skirts edged with white and finished with gold rosettes, white waistcoat, frilled shirt, blue pantaloons edged with scarlet cord, short black gaiters, and shoes ; the hair frizzled, hair powdered, and a tail behindtied with black ribbon. The officers wore helmets. Such were the Portsea national guards, but the Portsmouth costume was so superlatively magnificent, as to obtain for the wearers the title of "The Golden Goldfinches." There were in the towns several distinct companies of Volunteers during the war.

THE
HISTORY
OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF LANDPORT,
THE MUNICIPAL WARDS OF ALL SAINTS AND SAINT
MARY, PORTSMOUTH.

BY
HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.

PORTSMOUTH:
SOLD BY THE BOOKSELLERS.

THE TOWN OF LANDPORT.

(PORTSEA EXTRA MUROS, "HALFWAY HOUSES.")

Beyond the Portsea Lines, is a very large suburb, through which passes the London road. It extends a long distance in every direction, is rapidly increasing, over the immense space of ground, formerly known as the Common-field,* containing some hundreds of acres, the closes anciently appertaining to the Priory of Domus Dei, many portions of collegiate lands, and the fields of the late T. Ridge, who left in his will that no portion was to be sold for less than one hundred pounds per acre, his descendants feared it would never realise that sum, but during the war, portions were sold at the rate of one thousand pounds per acre.

The following document traces the change of property in this neighbourhood.

The WARDEN and SCHOLARS, of Saint Mary College, of Winchester, CONVEY to JOHN BURRILL,—ALL those pieces of Arable Land, situate in Portsea common field, called Cherry Garden Field, in Amelia Row, and Unicorn-street : which pieces of Land, contain altogether 25A. 0R. 14P, are Freehold of Inheritance, and are part of the Lands of the Wardens and Scholars, in the parish of Portsea, IN EXCHANGE for Buildings, Gardens, Orchards, and pieces of Land, Freehold of Inheritance, belonging to John Burrill, and containing 80A. 0R. 15P. situate in the parishes of Wymmering and Widley.—*Dated this 16 day of May, 1836.*

* The common fields, according to the ancient customs of this borough, are to be driven by the chamberlain immediately after harvest is in. The owner of every horse, who has no right to the common fields, is to pay for each horse the sum of 6s. 8d, for every cow 3s. 4d, and for every sheep or pig 4d. And for every five acres of land any person has in the common fields, he is entitled to keep one horse, or two cows, or twenty sheep or pigs. Every burgess, belonging to this corporation, has a right to feed one horse in the common fields during the time they remain open ; and the corporation were entitled formerly to have from the respective owners the sum of threepence an acre for every acre of land in the common fields, which has been many years since done away with.

Between the town and the shore of the harbour lay some very extensive pasture lands ; These were purchased some years since by Government for the formation of Cavalry barracks and other works connected with the defences of the Country ; a roadway passes on the edge of the harbour round three sides of these enclosures, till it joins the turnpike road ; and a private way leads through the centre of them to the same : this district is commonly called the " pesthouse fields," and the small streets and houses on the edge of the harbour, " the flathouses." The following are the prices given in 1814 by the Government for the lands, on awards of the grand jury. Sir J. Carter, for Pesthouse 13,000*l*. Mr. Hellyer 4000*l*. Mr. Atfield 3353*l*. Mr. Brain 16,000*l*. Dock mill society 10,000*l*. Mr. Fitzherbert 6,000*l*. Mr. J. Lath 1,000*l*. Lord Powerscourt 3,224*l*. Mr. W. Pearce 6,000*l*. Mr. Tolfree 1,900*l*. Mr. Gravenor 2,100*l*.

Immediately after the purchase, the General of the Ordnance commenced and carried to some extent a lofty wall enclosing all the houses and streets on that side Landport from the road round the fortifications of Portsea.

The streets however have of late years had access granted again, the inhabitants paying the expense of removing portions of the wall. That part of the town between Charlotte-street and Union-street is in the parish of Portsmouth. The cognomen, Landport, was given a few years since by William Cooper, Esq. alderman and several times mayor of Portsmouth, and a native of the place.

ALL SAINTS' DISTRICT.

For ecclesiastical purposes, by an order in Council dated March 4th, 1835, this district is thus described. " The boundary to commence on the South side at William's bridge on the canal, extending to the London road, crossing which it is continued along the centre of Union-road, to the South of the Lion Havelin Gate ; to be bounded on the South-west by the outer line of fortification of the town of Portsea, and on the West by Portsmouth-harbour, as far as Byerley's Mill ; on the North, to commence in the centre of Rodmore-lane, leading to the London-road and comprising the houses on the North side of Kingstone Crescent, extending as far as (where at that time) the second mile stone in the London-road ; the line from thence to continue on the West side of Buckland-road to Lake-lane down the centre of which to lead to the London-road, turning there to the South into the centre of Paradise-row and to terminate at William's Bridge, on the canal.

THE MUNICIPAL WARD.

Rate	Amt. of
Payers.	Rating.

All Saints' Ward, or Landport—(nine Councillors)—The north and west of a line passing from the Lion Gates to the Blacksmith's Arms, from thence to the bottom of Lake-lane, up the same to the top, turn to the right in a line as far as Deadman's-lane, up Deadman's-lane, to the top of same, then turning to the left through Copnor to Gatcombe-house, then passing from Gatcombe-house through the avenue of same, across the Turnpike Road, to the extremity of the Borough Boundaries, on the sea-shore near Tipner; including also that part of the Parish of Portsmouth in this District.

2,094 11,215

NO POPERY! NO SAINTS!

(Curious Letter.)*

I am astonished to find in the nineteenth century, and this reforming age the Popish superstition identified with the wards into which this Borough is divided, under the Municipal Bill. It is bad enough to dedicate to departed Saints our places of religious worship; but more absurd, to mete out the sections of a town to various Saints now in Heaven. What has St. Thomas, or St. John, or St. Mary to do with wards or Corporations? And how preposterous to denominate one of these divisions "*All Saints*," when the term will not fitly apply to *one half* of its inhabitants. Instead of going to Heaven for names, let some other appropriate and distinctive appellation be adopted; for All Saints, Landport Ward. Get rid of superstition, and preserve secular affairs from being associated with those which are religious.

October 30th. 1835.

This ward may be hereafter altered by the Boundaries Bill.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

The Vicar of Portsea, the Rev. C. B. Henville, supported by all his Clerical Brethren, the Parish Officers, a number of Gentlemen, and the children of the Charity Schools, attended divine service, at Kingston Church, and afterwards proceeded in procession to the site of the new Church of All Saints, to lay the foundation stone. The reverend gentleman delivered a prayer on the occasion, and having laid the stone in the customary form, implored a blessing on the undertaking, and on those concerned in the rearing of it. In a cavity of the foundation, inclosed in a glass case, sealed with mastic were deposited a Bible, a Testament, a Common Prayer Book, and a Johnson's Dictionary, with a brass Plate, bearing the following inscription.

"Hoc Templum Parochiale, sacris dicatum construendum decrevit, privatis opibus adjuta Britanniarum Senatus Munificentia. Primum hunc operis Lapidem Posuit Carolus Brune Henville, A. M. Vicarius de Portsea xxiv die Junii, Anno Georgii Regis Quarti sexto, A. S. MDCCXXV.—Jacob Owen, Architecto,"

* Not by the Editor.

SUBSCRIBERS TO THE CHURCH.

£. s. d.			£. s. d.		
Burgess, Mrs. Eliza	2	0	0	Rennel, very Rev. Dean of	
Burges, Mrs. Elizabeth	2	0	0	Winchester	10 10 0
Cape, Rev. J.	5	5	0	Searle, Mr. A.	5 0 0
Carter, J. B. Esq. M. P.	10	0	0	Seeds, Mr. Thomas	5 0 0
Carter, Mr. Edward	10	0	0	Sheppard, Mrs.	52 10 0
Carter, Mrs. S.	1	0	0	Smith, Mr.	1 1 0
Carter, Mrs. Sarah	1	0	0	Smithers, Mr. John	2 2 0
Cockburn, Sir G. K. G. C.	10	0	0	Soaper, Mr. G.	10 0 0
Compton, Mr. T.	1	1	0	Spicer, Sir S.	50 0 0
Cooper, Mr. W.	5	5	0	Stigant, Mr. W.	2 2 0
Martin, Mr. P.	5	0	0	Tate, Rev. William	10 0 0
Mathews, Mr. Charles	5	0	0	Mr. Temple, R. G.	10 0 0
Morgan, Rev. Dr.	10	0	0	Thomas, Mrs. Mary	1 0 0
Naylor, Mr. Edward	1	1	0	Toriano, Capt.	2 0 0
Newton, Mr. W.	5	0	0	Turner, Mr. George	1 0 0
Owen, Mr. Jacob	5	5	0	Watson, Major R. M.	5 5 0
Paffoot, Mr. Charles	5	0	0	Winchester, Warden and	
Pearce, Mr. William	5	0	0	Fellows of	200 0 0
Poulden, Mr. A.	10	10	0	Winchester, Dean & Chap-	
Pratt & Son, Messrs.	10	10	0	ter of	20 0 0

At the Mile End, stands All Saints' Church, erected in 1826-7, by the Commissioners. The site was the property, severally, of Lord Viscount Powerscourt, the College of St. Mary, Herbert Allen, Esq. and Mr. T. Gloge, in common field—the two former proprietors presented their shares to the church, and from the two latter the interest was purchased. The Rev. R. H. Cumyns, B. A. of All Souls' College, Oxon. was appointed by the Vicar the first minister. The church is in the florid style of Gothic architecture, having above the principal front a tower supported and adorned by flying buttresses.

The contract price for this building was 12,164*l.* and the iron palisade 309*l.*; and it was built by Messrs. Ellis and Absalom, of Portsea. In its internal arrangement it partakes of the same character as St. Paul's. The splendid east window above the altar, twenty-three feet in height and fifteen in breadth, executed by Mr. Edwards of Winchester, represents in six compartments, under rich canopies, and standing on Gothic pedestals, the four Evangelists, and the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, recognized by their symbolic emblems. In the upper circular part are six angels, bearing alternately a celestial crown, a harp, and a trumpet. The tracery work is filled up by Gothic designs, and on each side are the heraldic bearings of the episcopal see of Winchester, the college of St. Mary (the arms of William of Wickham) and the vicar of Portsea, the ordinary, patron, and incumbent. This brilliant window was erected at the expense of the Rev. C. B. Henville. The Church is of the same dimensions as the church of St. Paul's Southsea, excepting an additional width of twenty inches; its exterior Purbeck Stone, the appearance

of which is much handsomer, and is of greater solidity than the Bath Stone.

There is a Chapel of the Baptists in Clarence-street, Charlotte's-row, and a second in Lake Lane built in 1824.

"On Tuesday, May 8, the foundation-stone for the use of the Baptist Chapel, was laid. On Wednesday, August 10, the Chapel was opened for public worship, when sermons were preached in the morning by the Rev. D. Miall, and the Rev. Dr. Draper, and in the evening by the Rev. Mr. Bulgin, to large and attentive congregations."

There are other Chapels in this district belonging to the various sects into which the latitudinarianism of Protestantism allows her followers to diverge, under plea of right of private judgment.

There is a Female Penitentiary at Landport.

A Gas Company was incorporated by act of parliament in 1821, the first projectors being Messrs Barlow Brothers, of London. The works are near the sea at the Flathouses, and the towns are now generally lighted throughout. The works were originally in Portsea near the Unicorn Gate.

The Barracks for the royal engineers were at Landport, at a mile distant from Portsmouth, as are the residences of the principal officers, near the London road, where it bends towards the Lion gateway. In the same district, and contiguous to the Barracks was the Marine Infirmary, formerly a private house.

The Sappers' Barracks, at the Half-way Houses, were sold by the Ordnance Board, for 1250*l.* in 1834.

PORTSMOUTH AND LONDON CANAL.

1817, February. Bill introduced into Parliament, received the Royal assent on July 10, for the Portsmouth canal, the expense being, for making the Canal from Eastney Lake to (the Halfway-houses) Landport, Cutting from Eastney Lake to the Basin at Portsea, two Locks, three Road Bridges, and six occupation ditto, the Towing Path, Steam Engine, including the building, Basin and Contingencies, £16,818.

On August 25, 1819, a Jury, summoned by George Hollis, Esq. Under-sheriff of the County, met to award to several proprietors, compensation for land required for the Canal. The following were the awards:—Miss White 1110*l.* Messrs J. Goldsmith 1100*l.* S. Goldsmith 475*l.* Morey 500*l.* Temple 1450*l.* T. B. Higgins 315*l.*

Ridge 270*l.* Dunning 315*l.* Lipscomb 45*l.* Hancock 105*l.* Badcock 135*l.* Blacker 300*l.* Feltham (exchanged), The Corporation 6*l.* 15*s.*

OPENING OF THE CANAL.

May 30th, 1823.

From Langstone Harbour, and the Sea-lock of the Portsea Island Canal. A Steam Vessel having passed the Locks, proceeded through this branch, of two miles in length, between banks covered with spectators, to the amount of at least 20,000. On reaching the basin, they were greeted with a discharge of cannon, and the acclamations of the persons assembled, amongst which were at least 500 who covered the masts, rigging and deck of a large Collier brig that lay therein.

On the site of the Canal Basin now stands Arundel-street.

The principal streets for business are Union-street, Charlotte-street, and the line of the London Road.

GENERAL CEMETERY.

A site of land of four acres in extent situate near the Nelson's Arms on the London road, and extending to the sea shore, was in November, 1830, purchased by a company, and at an expence of three thousand pounds, drained, planted and enclosed with walls fourteen feet high; a handsome entrance and corridor fronts the road, having at one wing, a small edifice for the funeral service, and at the other a residence for the officiating registrar.

The Poor-house for Portsea is situated, two miles on the London-road; it is a very large brick building, having been several times enlarged.

Thomas Fitzherbert, Esq. who resided at Stubbington Lodge, and held the College leases, left by will, June 8, 1821, 10,000*l.* four per cent. Cons; the dividends to be paid in life annuities, "for the maintenance of five poor men, married or single, ten poor widows, and five poor single women, of the age of fifty years, or upwards, born within the guildable part of Portsea, and resident in the parish at the time of their election, and shall have resided at least ten years previous. The vicar, or his curate, the ministers of the established churches, and the churchwardens of the Guildable part of Portsea, appointed governors, and visitors of the charity, with power to elect the persons, who shall partake of the benefit.

PORTSEA PARISH.—Answers of the Overseers to the series of questions, by the Government Agents:

The average number of rates for the last three years have been seven and a half, or 7*s.* 6*d.* in the £, in a proportion of two-thirds of the annual value upon houses, and only one-fifth of the rental upon land. The whole amount of rated property is valued (including the out district of Portsmouth Parish) at 51,500*l.* annual value. The Houses, &c. yield annually 11,053*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.*; and the Land, 2,323*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.* upon the average of the same period. The inhabited and rated houses number, 7,770, viz.—under 5*l.* 5,350; between 5*l.* and 10*l.* 1,368; 10*l.* and 20*l.* 735; 20*l.* and 30*l.* 199; 30*l.* and 40*l.* 67; 40*l.* and 50*l.* 35; 50*l.* and upwards, 16. Unoccupied houses, 348. Rated, but excused payment on account of poverty, 4,275. Ratings otherwise than inhabited houses, 243. The number of persons occupying property who do pay rates 3,596.

In the first year after the war (1816), the sum levied on the parishioners of Portsea, for the maintenance of the poor, was 8592*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* including 1980*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* out-door relief. The yearly amounts levied since 1824 stand thus :

1825	.....	£10,384	4	6	.....	Out-door,	£3,740	1	9
1826	.....	12,023	10	0	.....		3,879	9	6
1827	.....	12,581	7	9	.....		3,802	17	10
1828	.....	12,260	12	10	.....		4,221	0	0
1829	.....	11,704	17	3	.....		4,514	6	10
1830	.....	13,420	12	0	.....		5,037	5	6
1831	.....	14,386	7	0	.....		5,357	3	6
1832	.....	13,294	19	0	.....		5,392	4	0
1833	.....	15,678	9	7	.....		5,898	10	1
1834	.....	14,102	12	4	.....		6,708	18	1

With the above large expenditure, the greatest number of paupers in the House (1816) was 621.

The Corporation lands in the Cherry Garden fields are in long narrow strips or rods.

Was there not a field, opposite the Air Balloon, at Kingston, containing about two acres, sold to Sir S. Spicer? Mr. Howard.—Yes, he gave the full value for it, 250*l.*

Stamshaw Common belongs to the Corporation, as part of the waste lands of the borough. The rights were not formerly so well defined as of late years. There has been a cottage of late years built on the Common for a gate-keeper. The parish of Portsea rents part of it. Formerly it was laid waste, and was generally occupied by gipsies, and there was no question of right of common. In the writings of Kingston there is a turn out of common mentioned.*

* Parliamentary Report.

At Tipner, three miles on the edge of the Harbour, in a very retired situation, is a small military post, for the safety of the magazines for gunpowder for the navy—an extensive range of buildings, erected in the present century, very strongly arched, bomb-proof, and nearly surrounded with water.

June 1833. It was decided in the Court of King's Bench, that the appointment of Five Overseers, for the Parish of Portsea, was illegal, and that four only are to be annually chosen. Until 1797, it was always the custom for the County Magistrates to appoint one and the Borough Magistrates three Overseers; but in that year, and up to last year, four were appointed by each set of Magistrates, and from the growing population, eight Overseers were requisite duly to execute the office.

In Landport, Southsea, and Kingston wards, there are fifty public houses, sixteen of which are in what was before the passing of the municipal act, called the guildable part of the borough. There are about as many beer shôps, and several breweries.

Portsea Isle, is in length 4 miles, and a 3 miles in bredth. This Isle berith good corn and grasse. The ground is made an Isle by this meene: There brikith out an arme of the meyn Haven about a 3 miles above Portesmouth, and goith up a 2 miles or more by marsh ground to a place caullid Porte bridge, 2 miles from Portesmouth. Then brikith there out another creke out of the mayn se or avant haven, and goith up also to Porte bridge, and there is the ground insulated. The ground within the Isle of Portesmouth is partly inclosed, frutefull of corn, and hath sum wood. From Portesmouth Town to Porte bridge, of 2 arches of stone, ij miles. The bridge is the limes of the Isle. And heere I markid one arme of salte water ebbing and flowing that cummith out of Portesmouth Haven up by marsch ground into Porte bridge and an other creke from the mayn se to the same bridge. And these 2 crekes meeting at the bridge make the Isle of Portesmouth.”*

The Island of Portsea is about sixteen miles in circumference, and the ride round it affords a delightful excursion. During the Heptarchy it was a royal demesne, but alienated in the reign of Edgar; by Athelfleda, his Queen, bestowing it as an addition to the minster at Winchester, which still retains a large portion of it as collegiate land. It consists of two parishes, viz. that of Portsmouth and Port-

* From John Leland's New Year's Gift to King Henry the Eighth.

sea, the extra-parochial land of the Salterns and Hilsea; but this latter, forming a part of the parish of Wymering, is not to be considered farther than including it in the aggregate number of acres.

ANCIENT TENURES.

In 1215. This portion of the parish of Wymering was granted by King John, to the Earl of Albermarle, by an order to the constable of Portchester on September 23.

On November 13, 1215. The sheriff is commanded to grant to William of Rochester ten acres of land, with appurtenances in Porteseye, [Portsea] which belonged to Hugo de Plaiz: a grant from the King.

On December 29, 1215. The sheriff is commanded to convey this same land from William Rochester, to William Brewer, in reward for military suit and service performed by him.

In the third year of Edward the First, Richard de Portescy had free warren over Portesey, Frodinton, Copenore, Stambrigg and Houghton, as had also Robert of Halsted over Porteseye, Froderington and Copnore in the fifteenth year of the same king. Henry the third granted to Envaloni de Montibus in free farm, twenty acres of land in Porteseye, which belonged to Henry Pensoner, an enemy to the king. Edward the first granted free warren to Robert de Harwedon, master of the Hospital of Portsmouth, over lands in Portsmouth, Froderington and Feldershe, and in the fifteenth year of his reign, Robert de Halsted had granted him lands in Portescy, Frodinton and Copnore, and John in his sixteenth year had also granted to the Hospital of Portsmouth certain messuages and lands near Portsmouth.

Stobington was formerly attached to the Hospital of God's House.—The Manors of *Kingston*, *Buckland*, and *Applestead*, having been escheated to the Crown in the reign of King John, were given to the Corporation. They were then in the possession of the De Ports, a family of some distinction in our Hampshire Annals.

	Rate Payers	Amt. of Rating
<i>St. Mary's Ward, or Kingston</i> —(three Councillors.)—All the Parish of Portsea to the East of Landport and Southsea Wards.	367	6,007

The five Wards in the parish of Portsea contain seven times the number of Rate Payers, but only three times the amount of rated rental, and therefore the number of Councillors for that Parish is 32, while Portsmouth is only represented by 9. The fact of the parish of Portsmouth having to pay one-third of the Borough Rate, a disproportionate sum, was wholly disregarded. This should, have been taken into account, and the number of Councillors raised to 12, and the additional three should have been subtracted from the Landport Ward, which has 2094 Rate Payers, but only 11,215*l.* rateable rental.

The hamlets of *Buckland*, *Kingston*, and *Fratton*, are now "the busy haunts of men." Within these ten years, these hamlets have become one; and, for an extent of upwards of two miles on the London road, the increasing suburbs spread through *Kingstone*.

Cross and towards the sea at Stamshaw, formerly quite a retired spot. At a short distance is Northend, and Stubbington, with the villages of Hillsea, Copner, and Milton; all of which contain many elegant houses, the seats of the resident gentry.

At Buckland, is the Parish Church dedicated to St. Mary, and commonly called Kingston Church, from the hamlet surrounding it—a venerable building, but nothing particular in its architecture. It is said to have been built in the reign of the third Edward. There is a square tower of modern date, containing a ring of bells. It is surrounded by the largest cemetery in the kingdom, containing eight acres, in the south-east part of which a great number of the sufferers in the wreck of the Royal George are interred in one grave, above which is a handsome monument with an appropriate inscription. Opposite the gateway is the new vicarage-house. The church which was anciently called “Portissaye” was painted for the first time in 1824. The whole of the chancel belongs to St. Mary’s College, and on the pew allotted to Stubbington parsonage appear the armorial bearings of William of Wykeham. The clock in the tower was given by Thomas Fitzherbert, Esq. and part of the communion-plate by the Rev. Dr. Backshell. The cemetery has been thrice enlarged; in 1782 by the addition of two acres on the south-east, and in 1812 two acres on the north side.

To enlarge the vicarial precincts at Kingston, the late vicar, the Rev. Dr. Gauntlett, purchased certain lands and tenements, and by his will, in 1825, secured them to his successors for ever. This benefaction is alluded to in the inscription on his monument. The church affords accommodation for eight hundred persons.

In the Taxatio Ecclesiastica of Pope Nicholas the fourth, 1291, the Vicarage of Porteseye is thus rated.

	£.	s.	d.
Eclia de Porteseye cum Cappella	30	0	0
Vicaria ejusdem	10	0	0
Et est pensionar in.....	1	10	0
	4	3	0

VICARIA PORTESSAY.

THOMAS ADAMS MODO VICAR.

Rectoria approp ad prioratu de Southwick in com South, valet in firma terræ vocat glebe lande decimis, oblationibus et aliis casualibus ut p. perdictam quater repris. £9 13 9

In procuracionibus et quoda : ddit ut p. p. dictam	
quater	9 7
et valet altra	£9 4 2ob
et inde decimis	18 5ob

In the *Liber Ecclesiasticus* of June 22nd. 1835, the value is stated as follows,

	£.	s.	d.
Portsea Vicarage—Net annual value (Patrons the } Fellows of Winchester College.) }	696	0	0
St. George's Church	45	0	0
St. John's	141	0	0
St. Paul's	310	0	0
All Saints.	160	0	0

April 17. On Tuesday, a new Independent Chapel was opened for Divine worship, at Buckland; three-fourths of the expense of the building contributed by the congregation of King-street Portsea.

The highway rate in Portsea, annually collected does not exceed 400*l.* as it is collected only on property outside the Portsea Walls; many streets and lanes formed within the last twenty years are not parish but private roads, and are not therefore repairable by the Way Wardens, without a special order at a Vestry Meeting. The accounts are exhibited every September, on the annual nomination of Way Wardens, and are subsequently explained to, and passed by, the Magistrates.

The Barracks at Hillsea were first planned in 1780-1, enlarged on February 14, 1794, and a camp was formed for several thousand men. During the Napoleon War, they received in detachments Twenty-eight thousand men; the buildings have been gradually removed, excepting the Hospital and a small brick building. It now appears as an extensive airing-ground round which has been planted a belt of trees with fences.

Four miles on the London road, is a military post, guard-houses, and a double drawbridge with extensive outworks, a deep canal, and a second stone bridge. The canal has been of late years deepened by the canal company.

1834. The Barrack Board gave directions for the sale of the Battle of Minden, public-house, long untenanted, unprofitable, and permitted to go into decay. The land has since been cleared.

In 1759, Government bought ninety-five acres, one rood and eight rods, part of a marsh called Hilsea Green, in the Parish of Wymering.

Gatcombe-House, the seat of the late Admiral Sir Roger Curtis, Bart. than whom no one ever filled a more useful and honorable station in the service of his country. Zeal, intelligence, intrepidity, perseverance, and urbanity, distinguished his public career; in private life he was an example of the *English Gentleman*.—Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart. a Post-Captain in the Navy, and an active

Magistrate for the County, has succeeded to the estate and honours of his lamented father.

June, 1813. In a committee of supply, Parliament voted 90,000*l.* for fortifications at Hilsea and Portsmouth.

1814, Oct. 24. The commission for purchasing premises and land at Hilsea for extending the works and lines, was opened, attended by the lieutenant-general of the ordnance, surveyor-general, secretaries, clerks, and surveyors, the admiral, the commandant of artillery, the principal officers of the Gun-wharf, and the attorney-general; after viewing the lands, the commissioners sat, and the grand jury of Hampshire being in attendance, the causes were commenced. The following were the awards made by the jury.

Mr. Padwick, jun., 10,025*l.*; Mr. Padwick, sen., 4500*l.*; Mr. and Mrs. Burrell, 20,537*l.*; Mr. Rood, 3000*l.*; devisee of Sir John Carter, 20,000*l.*; Mr. Hellyer for Hilsea, 500*l.*; Trustee for Antrim and Craswell, 6500*l.*; Mr. Chase for the King's Head, 3800*l.*; Mr. Friend, 1700*l.*; Messrs Garratt for two public houses, 3700*l.*; Mr. Goldfinch, 2100*l.*; Mr. W. Hopkins, 4250*l.*; Mr. S. Hopkins, 1200*l.*; Mr. Hebbard, 1800*l.*; Sir R. Curtis, for mansion and land, 24,000*l.*; Mr. J. Morey, 1200*l.*; Mr. Pittis, 4263*l.*; Mr. Smith, 1500*l.*; S. Spicer, Esq. for the "Battle of Minden," 2000*l.*; T. Thistlewhayte, Esq. 5000*l.*; devisees of Walker, 1250*l.*; Mr. J. Knight, 2400*l.*; Mr. J. Green, 3000*l.* The court sat four days.

The lands purchased under the act above recited, extend across the island from sea to sea on either side of the canal at Portsbridge. The boundaries are marked by small square stones, bearing the initials "G. R." many of which are seen in passing round the island. The boundary pillar of the borough is near the fourth mile-stone on the London road, and on one side of these lands. It was formerly "a Green Post," from which the neighbouring tavern takes its name, but is at present a handsome stone pedestal, enclosed by iron rails; on one side appears the Corporation crest, and below, "Burgi, de Portesmouth Limitatum Limes: Anno 1799. Rev. G. Cuthbert, Prætor."

The village of Milton is pleasant and retired. Milton, or Middleton, Pound, and Welder Heaths, have been enclosed, by acts of parliament. At Tangier, on the eastern side of the island, are the ancient Salt-works, mentioned as existing in the time of Edward the Confessor, and rated in Domesday Book; beyond this is the hamlet of Copnor, with the manorial Farm, and house.

CROWN ESTATE, THE GREAT SALTERNS.

This was sold by auction, at the Auction-mart, on Friday the 8th.

of January, 1830, in one lot (by order of the Commissioners of his Majesty's woods and land revenues,) under the authority of the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury. It comprises a Freehold Estate, extra-parochial and tithe-free, comprising 351 acres, situate next Wimpering, in Portsea, three miles from Portsmouth, and one mile and a half from Cosham, a large Mansion-house, with extensive storehouses, cisterns, and buildings for salt-works, which until within a few years, were carried on upon an extensive scale, the brine-grounds comprising together 70 acres, very advantageously arranged, with spacious Quay-room, next Langstone Harbour; a compact Farm adjoining with a Villa Farm Residence, and agricultural buildings, containing exclusive of the above, about 200 acres of productive arable with a suitable portion of meadow land. It was in the occupation of Mr. Stewart, but at the sale in the hands of the Crown, the purchaser was Mr. F. Sharpe. Not far from this is Baffin's Farm, remarkable for a Fish Pond of great extent and depth. Beyond Milton is the Canal formed across the Island, commencing from a lock in Langstone haven (where was a large steam-engine for filling it with salt water), and terminating in the basin at Landport. It was opened with much formality a few years ago; a collier, several barges, and a steam-vessel, passing along it; but the salt water percolating through the loose texture of the island, spoilt all the wells and springs, and it was of necessity abandoned.

A prospectus was issued in 1837 for the formation of docks, wharves, and warehouses, on the north point of Velder Lake, immediately behind Baffin's Farm to the south of the Salterns; the establishment to abut into Langstone Harbour, the entrance by a canal to be dug between Southsea Castle and the Fire Barn, to pass in the rear of Lump's and Eastney Forts, and thence into Eastney Lake, close to Fort Cumberland. This canal to be 18 feet deep, and its entrance facing Spithead, projected to the edge of the deep water harbour channel.

CUMBERLAND FORT.

When exiled Stuart sought our isle
 And Waverly was gained by guile;
 When Scotland's hardy mountain clans
 Won the bright day at Preston Pans,
 While claymore bright and English steel,
 For George—for Stuart—ring and reel;
 When on Culloden's dreadful plain
 High rose the heaps of mangled slain,
 When, CUMBERLAND! thy giant might
 Maintained thy Royal Father's right,
 Drove from the land each bigot slave
 In terror o'er the foaming wave,

And taught, that England's people free
 Will ne'er submit to slavery—
 'Twas gratitude to thee would found
 The Fort, our isle to guard and bound—
 Though poor the tribute it can give
 To one, whose name shall ever live,
 While valour is to England dear,
 And Liberty her sons shall cheer.

Bulwarks erected at enormous price,
 By heads of folly and by hands of vice.
 GIBBON.

Cumberland Fort, situate at the mouth of Langstone Harbour. This fortification which cost many hundred thousand pounds, was erected by convicts, from bricks manufactured on the spot, and faced with Portland stone. It covers a great extent of ground, has secret communications, mounts some hundred pieces of cannon, is capable of containing four thousand troops, and is yet perfectly useless from its situation. It was commenced in 1796, Lord Tyrawly being the projector, but was very small. The principal part was formed under the direction of the Duke of Richmond: and from 1794 till 1820 it was much improved and enlarged. It is named in honour of William Duke of Cumberland. On the beach are two small forts for six cannon, called Eastney and Lump Forts, they are however, in a dilapidated state from the violence of the sea; at the latter more than three acres of land have been lost since its first erection in 1734: this is now a station for the Coast Guard, and a second is on the beach near Cumberland Fort.

THE INVASION.

A Scene on the beach in 1801.

Portsmouth never witnessed a prouder day than the *Sunday*, on which the Beacons were fired announcing that the *French invading Flotilla was at Sea*: thousands of the inhabitants, in plain clothes, pressed forward as Volunteers, eager for arms, and were sworn to their allegiance, at the moment when the distant beacons announced that *the enemy was at hand*, and the Ships at Spithead were slipping their Cables to put to Sea; even men, too old for the field, entreated to be allowed to assist at the great Guns, determined to apply a *Match* to the touch-hole, when they were too feeble to handle a *Musket*. Among the *PRIVATES*, enrolled on that day were Sir John Carter, and the leading men of all parties; The Portsdown troop of Cavalry marched with cheerfulness at ten o'Clock at night; and the Volunteers, and the general mass of people waited with ardour to hear the firing of three of the largest pieces of Ordnance in the Garrison, during the night, as a Signal, *that the enemy was off the Port*.

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHSEA,

THE MUNICIPAL WARD OF SAINT PAUL, PORTSMOUTH.

BY
HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.

PORTSMOUTH:
SOLD BY THE BOOKSELLERS.

THE TOWN OF SOUTHSEA.

Fifty years since the whole site of Southsea was occupied by fields and gardens : there was but one house (the late Mr. Willson's) and a cottage called the Wheelbarrow Castle tavern. In the situation of King's and Jubilee terraces, pasture lands ; where now stand Hampshire and Landport terraces, a long rope-walk with a very high bank on each side ; and a large pond in the angle, where is now Landport-street. The first houses built were on the left-hand side of Hambrook-row, then followed Southsea-place and Bath buildings ; and Thomas Croxton, Esq. having purchased some fields, from Sir John Carter, sold them off, and King's-terrace was commenced by John Williams, Esq. Comptroller of Customs. This was followed by the Bush hotel, erected in a market-garden ; and the different streets and terraces rose in succession : King's-terrace was not finished for many years, and Jubilee-terrace in 1827. Southsea now assumes the appearance of a large town. King's-terrace is an uniform range of buildings ; in a niche over the centre is a statue of George III, in his coronation robes, executed by Mr. Hellyer, of H. M. Dock-yard, erected in commemoration of the Jubilee.

The Inscription.

“GEORGIO III. ANNOS QUINQUAGINTA REGNANTI
HARUM ÆDIUM CONDITORES
HANC STATUAM POSSUERE 1809.”

Thomas Croxton declared that he had netted 17,000*l.* for the site of Croxton town, which in 1711 sold for one hundred pounds.

Extending to the right, are the terraces of Landport and Hampshire ; the former having a highly picturesque appearance, from the lofty trees and handsome shrubberies before many of the buildings, whilst on the left are the ranges called Bellevue and Jubilee terraces, which the draining of the morass has much improved, the property, now presenting a fine piece of meadow-land. The principal streets are Wish-street (formerly Wish-lane), Great Southsea-street, Park-lane, and Elm-grove, in which latter are many fine suburban residences and villas erected, and erecting on the site of some very

extensive market-gardens, and gradually spreading to Southsea-common. Opposite the Bush hotel, another road leads to a populous part of the suburbs, named Summer's-town, Allen's-field, the Crescent, &c. all in a state of advancement to form a large town. Somerset-place exhibits some noble houses; while the fields behind St. Paul's Church are laid out for building, and new streets connect this part with the district of Marylebone; the Brunswick Gardens were sold by Government in 1833, and now begin to be covered with streets. Victoria and Kent terraces were begun in 1837.

SAINT PAUL'S DISTRICT.

By an order of the Privy Council, dated March the fourth, 1835. The boundary to commence at South Sea Castle, on the south east, following a strait line to Marmion-place, and thence continuing in the centre of the road to the canal at Keith-bridge, on the north side the boundary extends westward down the centre of the canal (now Arundel-street) the London road, thence crosses the centre of Union road, terminating at the Lion Ravelin gate; the outer line of the fortifications of the towns of Portsea and Portsmouth forms the western boundary, on the south it is bounded by the sea.

THE MUNICIPAL WARD.

<i>St. Paul's, or Southsea</i> —(nine Councillors.)—The south and east of a line passing from the Lion Gates to the Blacksmith's Arms, from thence to Lake-lane, up the same to top, then turning to the right through Fratton to the top of Green-lane, down Green-lane, through Green-row, Somers-town, Park-lane, to the Wheelbarrow Castle, thence to the extremity of old Borough Boundaries at Southsea	Rate Payers	Amt. of Rating
	2,452	11,778

Southsea Common was manorial land. It was purchased by Government about forty years ago, and enclosed portions of it were retained by the occupants of the surrounding lands, 31 acres given to the late Mr. Temple. It is now used as a parade ground. It was within these few years, covered with furze. It has for ages been a place for the encampment of troops. In 1220, the finest army England ever saw lay encamped here, under Hubert de Burgh. 1386, twenty-eight thousand men lay here for some months, under the command of the Duke of Lancaster. 1475, May 26, the whole army of England reviewed on Southsea Common, by King Edward the Fourth. Henry the Eighth encamped his forces beyond Southsea Castle in the thirty-sixth year of his reign, and commanded them in person. 1628, the armament against Rochelle being appointed to rendezvous at Portsmouth, the troops lay in camps on the Common south of the town. During the last century, the Duke of

Richmond formed a large camp beyond the Castle ; and another of immense bodies of troops, in 1801. Traces of these are still discernible, in the circular rings and partial pavements in various parts. During the last war, Government erected four large earthen batteries, at regular distances, along the shore ; the brick building near the Castle is the Fire-barn, for the manufacture of combustible articles used by the Ordnance ; and in the small battery, built to represent part of a ship, the sailors practise the use of cannon. The marsh land was drained by the late Mr. Webb ; it had been, from time immemorial, a sheet of water, abounding in the winter with wild fowl. In a field near the windmill is a large stone, marking the situation of the ancient landmark ; on it is inscribed, G. R. 1774. The lofty masts on the Beach* and Common are for the guidance of Shipping. From the Clarence rooms to the houses at Southsea extended a morass, cut into trenches ; in some places very deep, and covered with stagnant water ; it has lately been drained, in a degree levelled, and added to the common.

ORIGINAL TELEGRAPH.

August 8, 1795. A telegraph erected on Post-down hill, within five miles of Portsmouth, under the direction of the Reverend — Campbell, Chaplain to his Royal Highness the Duke of York ; the experiment was tried, and intelligence conveyed from Portsmouth to London in twenty minutes, the first station being on the common.

The common was the scene of the great rejoicings on account of the passing of the Parliamentary Reform Bill.

THE ROYAL CLARENCE PROMENADE-ROOMS AND BATHS

Are situated on the Beach. The original establishment was the erection of long rooms, on Southsea Common, by Mr. Cross, of the Crown hotel, by whom the bathing-machines were also introduced. These rooms were on the Common, near a small bridge thrown over a part of the morass, which formed part of the fortifications ; being of wood, they did not long withstand the “ wind and surf,” and for years afterwards the only accommodation consisted in some hovels

* “ David Tyer was executed on Southsea beach for high-treason ; beheaded, drawn, and quartered, with the most inhuman and disgusting cruelty ; his heart being torn from his body ; the blood spouting over the spectators ; the miscreants cutting of his fingers for tobacco-stoppers, and leaving the unburied remains exposed to the sea-fowl on the beach. His head was kept as a show for many years, by ‘ Buck Adams,’ the gaoler of Gosport Bridewell, who publicly claimed it, placed it in a bag, and carried it home under his arm.” Saturday, Aug. 14, 1782.

called "M'Donald's Bathing-establishment." At length a party of gentlemen, purchased a canteen-house at Portchester, and rebuilt it on the Beach. This, however, was neither wind nor water tight; but by great exertion it was maintained for a few years, and some baths were added; but the proprietors, having made arrangements with the Board of Ordnance, the rooms were taken down together with the cottages which surrounded them, and the present erection was completed. The rooms, present an arcade towards the sea, supported by columns connected by arches. The principal apartment is forty-five feet long, thirty-five broad, and seventeen feet high; papers, monthly publications, and a library afford amusement to visitors, and in the evenings music, singing, balls, &c.

The machines for cold bathing are ranged along the shore, and are more convenient than at any other place on the coast.

FELTON THE POLITICAL ASSASSIN.

"On Wednesday last week, when no man expected any such thing, was Felton, before break of day, conveyed from the Tower to the Gatehouse, and between six and seven o'clock that morning, attended by the sheriff and many armed men, brought to the King's Bench bar. His indictment being read, he confessed the fact; but added, that he did it not maliciously, but out of an intent for the good of his Country. Then Mr. Attorney made a speech in aggravation of the murder; .. he produced the knife in open court, comparing him to Ravilliak, &c. Then Justice Jones, being the ancient on the bench, gave sentence that he should be hanged untill he was dead, but mentioned neither time nor place. At Tyburn, where he was hanged, he testified much repentance, and so took his death very stoutly and patiently. He was very long a dying. (Saturday.) His body is gone to Portsmouth, there to be hanged in chains."*

This assassin was gibbeted on the beach; an obelisk close to the Bathing rooms, contains an oak post full of nails being part of the gibbett, this is a boundary mark of the ancient limits of the borough by land. It still serves to mark the water boundaries.

FELTON'S EPITAPH.†

Here uninterred suspends, but not to save
Surviving friends the expenses of a grave

* Extracts of original letters from Mr. Mead to Sir Martin Stutville, December 13, 1628.

† From an original Manuscript 1686.

Felton's dead earth—who to himself must be
 His own sad monument, and elegy.
 But whether bad or good
 I say not, by himself 'twas wrote in blood.
 Lo! the pale corse and see that daring hand,
 Arched o'er with heaven—and ten thousand
 Diamond stars—for him a sepulchre
 Which time shall never ruinate—and where
 The impartial worms—(not bribed to spare
 Princes wrapt up in marble*)—do not share
 His dust; which oft the charitable skies
 Embalm with tears; doing these obsequies
 Belonging unto men, while pitying fowl
 Contend to reach his body to his soul.

PURITANICAL EXCUSE FOR MURDER.

Some say the Duke was gracious, virtuous, good,
 And basely Felton did not spill his blood;
 If that be true, what did he then amiss
 In sending him the sooner to his bliss?
 Pale death is pleasing to a good man's eye,
 And none but bad men are afraid to die:
 Left he this kingdom to a passage better?
 Why Felton then hath made the Duke his debtor.
 LANSDOWNE M.SS. 108.

SOUTHSEA CASTLE,

Situate three quarters of a mile south of Portsmouth, on the beach of the Common close to the water's edge, was built by Henry the Eighth in 1539, "a ryghte goodlie and warlyke castill." A good view of it is found in the engraving from Holbein's picture, in which the entrance of the town of Portsmouth, on the land side, is placed so as to face the spectator, and the wall, is fortified at the angles by circular forts or bastions. At a small distance, and near to the point, was the English camp, defended on that part of its front which faces towards St. Helen's, by a circular fort, mounted with four guns. The King mounted on a stately charger, whose head-stall, rein, and stirrups, are studded and embossed with gold, is riding from the town of Portsmouth, and just *entering Southsea Castle, in his way to the camp*. On his head a black bonnet with a white feather, a jacket of cloth of gold, and a surcoat or gown of brown velvet, with breeches and hose of white silk: his countenance serene and sedate, all the features of his face highly finished, and the portrait the greatest likeness. On his right hand three henchmen, dressed in the royal uniform, and bearing their bonnets in their hands; and

* In satirical allusion to the Duke of Buckingham's splendid Monument in St. Thomas's Church.

on his left two lacqueys, dressed in different liveries. Behind the King the Duke of Suffolk, on a black charger, and also Sir Antony Brown, the King's Master of the Horse, on a white charger. These followed by two demi-lancemen, horsed and completely harnessed. Between the camp *and the fort on the point*, a band of pikemen in armour; and close to their left, a band of gunners.

Southsea Castle might well be called the Key of Portsmouth Harbour; every ship of war coming into it being necessitated (owing to the flats) to keep close to the shore upon which it is erected. It is observable, that Dumourier, when brought to Portsmouth as a captive, and another General of equal celebrity (I believe Hoche), were struck with the omission of a strongly-constructed fortress upon this spot, during the War: it being then in ruin.

The original castle consisted of a block-house with a domelike top. In the reign of Charles the Second it was surrounded with a star fort, as appeared from a small square tablet on the south side of the block-house near a flight of steps and an internal archway. On the accession of the House of Hanover, it was enlarged.

In 1552 King Edward VI. passed a night in the castle during a tour for his health. In the reign of Elizabeth the following was the state of the garrison: capitaine, fee per diem 2s.; under capitaine, 1s. 1d.; porters 2, one per diem 8d. the other 6d.; master gunner, 8d.; gunners 14, soldiers 11, fee apiece per diem, 6d.

"1642, on Saturday, September 3d, in the night, the Parliament forces took Sousey Castle, w^{ch} lyes a mile from the toun upon the sea, and the way thither is on the sea sands. The capitaine of the castel, his name was Challiner, who on Saturday had been at Portsmouth, and in the evening went home to the castel, and his souldiers took horseloads of provisions, biscuit, meal and other necessaries wy them. They reported he had more drinke in his head than was befitting such a tyme and service, and the tounsmen gave out, that he had been bribed wy money to yield the castel up, but 'twas false, tho the first may be true, yet was not that neither any furtherence to the taking of it, for thus it was. Here were eighty musqueteers and others that came that night to the walle of the castel and under their ordnance, and had wy them a very good engineer and thirty-five scaling-ladders, and the whole company in the castel were but twelve commanders or officers, who all were not able to deal wy ours

Note.—1648, September 21st. Goring keeps Portsmouth for the King; but it was invested by the Forces of the Parliament and taken.

in such a disadvantage ; wherefore ours having suddenly and silently scaled the walls, called unto them, advised them what to do, shewing the advantage we had over them, and therefore their danger if they resisted ; who seeing the same immediately yielded the castel to us, whereupon our triumph at our taking it was plainly heard about two of the clock in the morning into the towne ; and as soon as they were masters of the castel they discharged two pieces of the castel ordnance against the towne, which capitulated the next day.”

A SONG OF THE COMMONWEALTH!!!

A Captain bold, named CHALONER
Here held his streightened quarters:
Right fond was he of home-brewed beer
And comfortable waters.

From Portsmouth journeying one night
By deep potations shaken,
By fiend, with golden tokens bright,
The Captain was o'ertaken.

'Twas on September midnight drear,
And far around were beaming
The *bivouac* fires, and many a spear
In the red light was gleaming.

Before them lay the common wild,
The moon was slowly sinking ;
No genial star in heaven smiled—
The Captain's thoughts were—*drinking*.

Before his dim and wandering eye
Such flitting forms were dancing
Unable made him to descry
He was with foe advancing.

In silence dread long time they went—
And gloomy hesitation ;
Till, with the Captain's free consent,
They joined in conversation.

By slow degrees and artful round
Sir Fiend changed relation,
'Till unsuspected moment found—
The Siege their joint narration.

By eloquence and bribery
The Captain's honor shaken,
In dead of night by enemy,
The fortress strong was taken.

“Two Declarations from the Town and Garrison of Portsmouth : the one from Colonel Morley, and divers Members of the late Parliament: published at the Market-place. The other by many hundreds of the inhabitants: with their Protestation and Resolution, and a Letter sent to the Gentry in the western parts. Also, the seizing of the *Ruby* frigate and divers other ships in the harbour: the coming in of the seamen, and the number engaging. With a Declaration of Major-General Brown. (1659.)

“Having so seasonable an opportunity to expedite unto you the great transactions in these parts, I could not omit the communicating thereof, it being of so general and publike concernment: especially, seeing that the scene is again changed in these parts, and Portsmouth made the aspect of our western climate. For it is very certain that many of the late Members of Parliament have had frequent meetings in many places up and down the Countreyes, both with the Gentry and others; and have presented several Garrisons with the translate of letters; amongst whom Col. Whetham (Governor of Portsmouth) seems to center in the same current, and hath granted free access into the town, treating the members with great prudency and friendship; and hath had several conferences with

them, about the securing of the town, and declaring for the Parliament: their consultations tending to an interruption of the armies' proceedings, as manifestly appears by a Remonstrance or Declaration published at Portsmouth: wherein they desire a mutual concurrence, for settling the peace of these distracted nations; for restoring the Parliament to their former freedom, being the people's indubitable and undoubted birth-right; and for the asserting the people's privileges, and maintaining of Magistracy and Ministers.

"This being published at the Market-place, many there were that protested against it, and declared their Resolutions to adhere to the General Council of Officers, and to stand by the Army in their present proceedings, accounting their undertakings equally dear with their lives and fortunes. But these Resolutions soon introduced a confinement to many persons; amongst whom, Captain Smith, Captain Peacock, Captain Brown, and about six of the townsmen were secured, which hath caused great distractions in the town, the inhabitants being very much divided.

"But Colonel Whetham the Governor is very active, and useth all possible means for the satisfying and making up of all interests to the discontented parties; and hath also secured the ships in the harbour, which are said to be fifteen, the *Ruby*, the *Diamond*, the *Saphire*, the *Pellican*, the *Dragon*, and ten other vessels.

"If we may credit the general report, that descends from the high-flown notions of the wings of fame, they are said to be seven hundred landmen, and seven score horse, who are sufficient to guard the town at present. It is rumoured that many of the gentry have been assisting in sending in provisions, and that some are gone in with horse and arms. But Major Cadwell having notice thereof, immediately advanced with his own troop, and two others, towards Petersfield; to whose assistance, some few withdrew from Farnham, and those parts, with a resolution to block up the Garrison, if they can: and to obviate the design of others, who shall endeavour an assistance, or concurrence.

"Col. Morley, and the rest of the members of the Old Parliament having consulted the publick affairs in general, and settled that Garrison, dispatched (as we hear) sundry letters to the Governours of several Castles and Garrisons, inciting them to a return of their former duty, and to alienate their affections from the army. But how it is resented, the relations are various, and the several reports as dubious: for some report the Isle and Castle of Portland to be in safe hands, and that Cowes and Hurst Castle in the Isle of Wight have undergone some tamperings: as also Carisbrook Castle.

THE SEIGE OF PORTSMOUTH.

“Chichester, Decemb. 9, 1659.

“Upon the arrive of this sudden change and alteration, in so considerable a garrison as Portsmouth, it was ordered, that a considerable body of horse and foot should be forthwith sent down into the western parts, to reduce that garrison, or block it up; and accordingly the Lord Disbrow was made choice of, as Commander-in-Chief for that Expedition, who advanced with several troops of Horse from Westminster, and on Tuesday night last Colonel Hewson’s Regiment of Foot began their march from the city of London, and five companies of Colonel Gibbon’s Regiment from the borough of Southwark. * * *

Also, all possible care is taken for the way-laying, stopping, and guarding the several avenues and passes, porting and leading to the town, that so the reducing of it may prove the more facile, and the work expedited, which otherwise may introduce various contingencies and mutations, the spirits of the people being exceeding inclinable thereunto; occasioned by the deplorable Revolutions, and a general decay of trade, as doth exceed the greatest of precedents in former times.

“By these sudden and unexpected commotions, a translate of some forces are expected from the northern parts; and ’tis said, that three regiments of horse and dragoons are already upon their march. From whence it is affirmed, that the Lord Lambert’s Infantry consists of above seven thousand foot, and that he hath a very considerable body of horse.

“General Monck hath sent two Officers to Newcastle, to add to his other three Commissioners, for re-entering upon some further proposals as yet untreated of. Colonel Zankey had a friendly reception from General Monck, upon his presenting of the letter from the Council of Officers of the Northern Army, in this present expedition. And it is the expectations of many, that there will be a mutual concurrence, and happy accommodation. * *

“By the last express from Portsmouth, on Saturday last it is certified, that a party of horse came as far as Gosport, and faced the town, but afterwards wheeled off at a further distance. Seven troops are also marched from Petersfield towards Chichester, and some commotions are feared about Exeter. The Foot that marched from London was met on Saturday last between Lockhup and Petersfield and intend to arrive before Portsmouth the 12th instant. Which place is said to be supplied with great store of provision and ammunition, having above threescore pieces of ordnance.”

1759, Aug. 23rd, at eight in the morning, part of this castle was blown up by some sparks falling through the flooring into a room below, where some soldiers had been the day before filling ball-cartridges, and where a quantity of powder had been carelessly scattered about. Seventeen men, women and children were dug out of the rubbish dead; all the windows were broken, and great part of the eastern wing damaged; the grand sea bastions were not injured, and only a small part of the wall and parapet on the land side. The force of the explosion of nine barrels burst open the door of the western magazine, tore a large bolt away, but happily reached no farther.

1782, Francis Leske, Esq. was deputy governor, with a salary of 91*l.* 5*s.* per annum.

This castle remained after the explosion in a very dilapidated state; and the sea shortly after destroyed large portions of the outworks, the watch-towers, &c. The interior, however, was very picturesque, the gateways of the keep and the staircases, with the deep-set windows and framework being highly interesting. In 1814 the greater part was rebuilt under the direction of Major-general Fisher, and now consists of a strong fortified tower, surrounded by a noble terrace, on one part of which has been lately erected a beacon-light, a moat, and covered way having communication by subterraneous passages. It has accommodation for two hundred men, with apartments for the officers. The approach is by a winding passage and drawbridge leading to a large gateway, above which appear the royal arms of Charles the Second, which have been replaced by the Board of Ordnance. The inscription is as follows: CAROLVS : II : REX : ANNO : REGNI : XXXVIII : A : D : MDCLXXXIII.

SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Admiralty, Rt. Hon. Lords				Cunningham, Mrs.	3	3	0
Commissioners	200	0	0	Curtis, Mr. Jacob	3	3	0
Allnut, Mr. Samuel.	1	1	0	Davey, Mr. J.	2	0	0
Arnaud, Messrs E. & E. B. 20	0	0	0	Dusautoy, Rev. W. S. ...	1	1	0
Atcheson, Mr. N.	5	5	0	Garrett, Sir George	10	10	0
Bishop, Mr. Hugh.	2	2	0	Guantlett, Rev. Dr.	200	0	0
Blackburn, Mr. C.	5	5	0	Goldsmith, Mr. James. ...	5	0	0
Boville, Messrs S. & J.	2	2	0	Goldsmith, Mrs. S.	5	0	0
Bradley. Mr. J.	5	5	0	Grant, Rev. Robert	5	5	0
Cull, Mr.	5	5	0	Grant, Messrs and Co.	21	0	0
Cumyns, Rev. R. H.	20	0	0	Grant, Mr. Thomas.	10	10	0

List of Subscribers Continued.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Hall, Captain, R.N.....	20	0	0	Inman, Rev. Dr.	5	0	0
Hancock, Mrs. Mary	10	10	0	King, Mr. George.....	2	2	0
Harrison, Rev. J.....	5	0	0	Kitson, Mr. John.....	5	0	0
Hayward, Mr.	5	5	0	Knott, Mr. Thomas.....	5	0	0
Hellyer, Mr. Henry.....	2	0	0	Lara, Dr.	10	10	0
Henville, Rev. C. B.....	70	0	0	Lind, Dr.	26	5	0
Henville, Rev. James....	10	10	0	Lindegren, Mr. John	10	10	0
Hoffmeister, Mr. C. W....	5	0	0	Littlejohns, Mr. Isaac....	2	2	0
Huish Miss.....	10	0	0	Lloyd, Rev. D.....	5	0	0

The foundation stone was laid by Sir Samuel Spicer, Mayor ; and Dr. Gauntlett, on September 13, 1820, and the church was consecrated on Friday morning, October 25th, 1822, by Tomline, Lord Bishop of Winchester. At about eleven o'clock his Lordship, attended by the Chancellor of the Diocese, the Resident Clergy, and the Committee with a number of respectable inhabitants of the towns, proceeded from the Bush Inn, to the Church, where had assembled a large auditory.—At the entrance the Bishop stopped, and a petition was read by the Deputy Registrar, praying him to consecrate the Church. His Lordship then proceeded to the Communion Table, repeating alternately with the Clergy, the first ten verses of the 24th Psalm. Having taken his seat on the North side of the Communion Table, and his Chaplain one on the South side, of the same, the Chancellor read the legal instruments for erecting the Church, by whom directed to be done, its order and service. The Bishop proceeded to the invoking the blessing of **ALMIGHTY GOD** in the dedication of the Church, in the performances of all the Sacraments and Ordinances of the Established Church. The Consecration was then read by the Chancellor, signed by the Bishop, and by him ordered to be Registered. The Minister of the Church, then read the usual service in the course of which the Bishop offered several prayers. This service being concluded, the Rev. R. H. Cumyns, as Sequestrator of the Vicarage of Portsea, preached a Sermon from 2 Chron. vi. 40.—“Now, my God, let I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.” The Sermon ended, the Bishop and Clergy made their offerings, and the Ministers collected the offerings of the Congregation, which amounted to 127*l*. Upwards of one hundred communicants, besides the Clergy, partook of the Holy Communion. The children of the National and Beneficial Society’s Schools, with those of St. John’s (exceeding five hundred in number,) formed not the least interesting part of the Procession to the Church.

The attendance on the occasion was immense. The church was opened for divine service on the Sunday following.

The Church stands, on a piece of land, the free gift of Daniel and Henry Hewitt, Esqrs. and is a noble specimen of Gothic architecture, from a design of Francis Goodwin, Esq. architect. The church is in length ninety-four feet, in width sixty, exclusive of the staircases, corridor, vestry, &c. The exterior of the church is of Bathstone, with four highly ornamented turrets at the corners, eighty feet in height. The windows on the sides are of noble proportions, the frames of ornamented cast-iron, the western front adorned with a lofty window; carved niches on each side the centre doorway, with the portals of the galleries. The projecting cornices, buttresses, and turrets, exhibit a splendid specimen of the simple or plain Gothic. The eastern front is beautified in a similar manner, having an immense circular window in the centre, and projecting vestries below, and the whole is surrounded by an iron railing, the workmanship of Mr. Evans, erected at a cost of 400*l*. The interior of the fabric is plain yet elegant; the ceiling coved, springing from each side, intersected by the pointed arches of the windows, unsupported by pillars, and adorned with suitable cornices. The galleries, which contain nine hundred free sittings for the poor, and seats for the charity children and the choir, are supported by small cast-iron Gothic pillars. In front of the west window in 1827, a neat Organ, corresponding with the architecture of the building, was erected by voluntary contributions, and opened by the master hand of Mr. Sibly, Organist of St. Thomas's; a discourse applicable to the occasion, was delivered by the Rev. Samuel Slocock; at the conclusion of the Service a collection was made from pew to pew. This Organ was in 1838 enlarged by Mr. Pilcher of London.

The lower part of the church is pewed, and affords accommodation for eleven hundred persons. These pews are let for the support of the officiating minister. The cost of this church was sixteen thousand, three hundred and sixty nine pounds, eighteen shillings, two pence halfpenny.

A painting has been placed (1827) above the communion table, by subscription of a few spirited individuals, viz. *the Shipwreck of St. Paul on the Island of Melita*: the moment seized on by the artist is that in which the Saint returns thanks to the Almighty for the deliverance. A figure of St. Paul occupies the centre, in an attitude expressive of pious emotion. The ardour of his character is somewhat abated, from the peculiar circumstances of the moment;

but the outstretched hand and raised countenance well express the zeal and subdued intrepidity of the rescued apostle. The head is finely drawn; and the manner of the drapery is that of the old masters. It was painted by Mr. Charles Skottowe: the picture measures nine feet by six; the height of the figure six feet four inches.

The bell was presented by Thomas Thistlethwayte, Esq. of Southwick; and the elegant communion service of silver plate by the Rev. the Vicar. On the flagon is the following inscription: "Poculum hoc, cum duobus alteris, et duabus Patinis, in usum hujus Capellæ Parochialis D. D. Carolus Brune Henville, A.M. Vicarius de Portsea, MDCCCXXIII."

The Chapel of the Particular Baptists at Southsea, is near the Bush hotel; it is a large building erected in 1815; at an expense of 1900*l*; the interior fitted with wainscoting taken from French prizes during the last war; attached is a burial-place; there is a chapel also in the White Swan field, and a third in Church Path and another in a Rope Walk, near Hyde Park Corner.

St. Paul's School. Several gentlemen having met at the Town Hall, on September 26, 1825, formed themselves into a society for founding and supporting a School, purchased for 600*l*. a site near St. Paul's Church Southsea, appointed a committee to superintend a proper building, and drew up resolutions. After a short time, 2300*l*. were raised, by one hundred shares of 23*l*. each, and the school was erected by contract, from the design of Mr. Owen.

In Grigg-street, is a Hall formerly the property of the Provident Society, erected by the members in 1827, and opened on September 26th of the same year. It is a fine room, the lower part is used as a school-room and the upper for meetings of a public nature.

1812, January. The Corporation grant land for the Lancasterian school, in the White Swan Field; It is a small brick building.

Sadler's Wells Theatre at the White Swan Inn. Luke Kent first kept the turnpike-gate at Postbridge, and afterwards became landlord of the Goat public-house, where he amassed a good fortune. He then opened the Sadler's Wells, and was assisted by James Perry and the most celebrated mimic of his time, who assumed the name of Rossignol. He was accustomed to procure a variety of birds, and, having first given his excellent imitation of the songs of each, to let them loose amongst the audience, to their no small gratification. The scheme failed and many foolish people believed that the theatre in this place was abandoned, because in the dances during the

performances the actors were always alarmed by finding one person more in the *corps de ballet*, than belonged to the company. The story is as old as the times of Allevyn and Dr. Faustus, and has migrated to almost every theatre in the kingdom.

Kent afterwards became the guard of the Chichester coach, and he was the first individual who filled such a place on the establishment of mail coaches, he left a sum of money, on condition of the guard always blowing the horn when he passed the place of his interment, Farlington Church.

WATER WORKS.

The towns are supplied by two companies, one acting under the provision of an act of parliament "for raising water by means of a steam-engine, from certain wells without the garrison. The principal agent in this transaction was W. Nicholson, Esq. the civil engineer, and the undertaking was accomplished by a subscription. The engine-house is situate in the White-Swan field, about a quarter of a mile from the Landport-gate, and the water is distributed to all parts of the town by cast-iron pipes, being first received in reservoirs in the neighbourhood of the works, where it is allowed to deposit any sand or impurity. This company is called "The Portsmouth Water-work Company."

"The Farlington Water-work Company," is founded on acts of a more ancient date. In 1741, April 25th, an act for supplying the town and shipping at Portsmouth was granted to Thomas Smith, Esq. as a reward for the recovery of large quantities of land from the sea, near Langstone Harbour. Peter Taylor, Esq. succeeded this gentleman in his estates, and strove to carry the act into execution, by digging an immense well in Crookhorn-copse, near Purbrook, and then carrying an archway of brick through Portsdown-hill: but after an immense expense of mining through the whole bed of chalk, till the workmen emerged at an opening behind Farlington church, not a drop of water was met with, and the speculation failed. Mr. Taylor then sold his right in the aforesaid act to a party of monied men in London, who opened some copious springs in the Farlington marshes, erected a steamengine, and excavated a reservoir on the hill, into which the water being forced, descends to Portsmouth, a distance of seven miles, by iron-pipes. The earthen pipes at different times discovered in the streets are those used by the first projector in 1742.

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
TOWN AND BOROUGH OF GOSPORT,
INCLUDING
ALVERSTOKE AND ANGLESEY,
WITH THE NAVAL AND MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS.

BY
HENRY SLIGHT, ESQ.

PORTSMOUTH:
SOLD BY THE BOOKSELLERS.

GOSPORT.

THE NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS—FORTIFICATIONS &c.

VICTUALLING DEPARTMENT.

“ On the Gosport side of the harbour, enclosed by the new Fortifications, stands Weovil. It was originally a large private house, with an extensive garden, on the edge of the common, the property of Captain Flyers, by whom it was sold to the Countess of Clancarty, and subsequently purchased by Government. It was a long time occupied by Mr. Holmes, one of the contractors for supplying the Navy with beer, who erected on it several large Brewing-houses. These, however, (May 1, 1752,) not being capacious enough for the purposes designed, new works (June 27,) were formed by Messrs. Cummins and Shepherd of Gosport, and Mr. Quick of Portsmouth, and the necessary plant (May 4, 1753,) furnished by Mr. Powell of Portsmouth. Mr. Morris (August 15, 1753,) enlarged the master brewer's-house, originally a large barn. The creek was deepened, and the foot wharfs made of oak, (July 3, 1753,) for 426*l*. The first cargo of coals were delivered on Government account June 28, 1753. 1754-5, additional plant furnished by Mr. Powell of Deptford. The rolling-way, (772 feet long at first, and afterwards much extended,) six new brewing-houses and stores, and a horse-mill, were (August 3, 1756, till November 30, 1757,) erected at a cost of 4600*l*.; and the stone wharfs and basin were formed by Mr. Tempelar in 1778, at a cost of 3604*l*. In 1780, great additions were made at an expense of 1385*l*.; still the accommodations were not adequate to the demands of the navy, and Mr. Wyatt built the new Brew-house, at a cost of 8800*l*., capable of brewing a daily supply of beer for 13,000 men. On the left of the entrance is the house for the principal officer, and the range of stores for wine, beer, &c.; on the right, the large brewhouse, water-reservoirs, cooperage, &c. A canal leads to the harbour, at the head of which is a large basin to receive small vessels.

Parliamentary Return of Expenses incurred in transferring the Victualling Department to Weovil.—Sums of money expended since 1st June, 1827, for buildings and works at Weovil, distinguishing such buildings and works, and the sums expended for the

New Establishment, from such as would have been required on the Old Establishment only; also an account of the expense incurred in the removal of the Establishment from Portsmouth to Weovil, with the sums required for the completion of the same;

<i>Works which would have been required at the Old Establishment:</i>	Amount paid.			Wanted to complete.
	£.	s.	d.	£.
Repairing roof of the south brewhouse.....	1,612	7	6	—
A third story to the north store, and new paving the ground floor	7,311	2	1	—
Rebuilding wharf wall	14,580	0	0	11,480
Rebuilding south jetty	1,890	0	0	2,110
Rebuilding south store houses, and brewhouse stills. &c.	990	0	0	17,000
Reservoir, and laying down pipes	1,260	0	0	1,035
Removal of mud and constructing campshott	—			6,280
	£27,643	9	7	37,905

<i>The New Establishment.</i>	Amount paid.			Wanted to complete.
	£.	s.	d.	£.
Mill, bakehouse, and storehouse	22,950	0	0	3,650 0
Kiln, with furnace plates, &c.	315	0	0	—
Steam-engines and machinery	11,000	0	0	7,500 0
Setting boilers of steam engines	655	15	7	—
Slaughter-house, vegetable store & weighing room, laying on water, forming sewers, and paving cattle yard.....	1,390	0	0	1,206 0
Offices	2,070	0	0	1,302 12
Corn store.....	9,360	0	0	2,688 0
The well	4,800	0	0	2,050 0
	£53,040	15	7	18,396 12

No other expenses than those herein-mentioned have been incurred by the removal of the Victualling Department to Weovil, but a saving of Establishment to the amount of 4,031*l.* per annum has been effected by concentrating the department, besides an annual saving of upwards of 1000*l.* per annum for the ordinary repairs of the Portsmouth premises: if the removal of the Victualling Establishment from Portsmouth had not taken place, very large repairs of the buildings must have been undertaken, part of the wharf wall must have been immediately re-constructed, and the mud in the Camber at Portsmouth must have been removed, the expense of which works would have amounted to many thousand pounds; and from the dilapidated state of the wharf wall, old storehouses, and rolling stages at Weovil, it would have been necessary to repair and rebuild them, as has now been done: the buildings having been on the premises when they were purchased, about seventy years ago.

An Account of the several sums of money at which the Premises of the Victualling Establishment at Portsmouth was sold.

	Sold for.
Quay Store—to Custom-house	£8,500
Agent's house and stores adjoining	6,457
Bakehouse	2,075
Long store-house in King-street.....	5,910
Long quay store—to Navy Board.....	13,200
Buildings adjoining thereto—ditto	3,100
Mill exchange for other property, with Ordnance, valued at..	4,000
Maison Dieu at Dover, offered to Ordnance at	7,5100
	£50,742

An Account of the number of Persons belonging to the Victualling Establishment at Portsmouth who have been reduced, in consequence of the removal of the Establishment to Weovil, with the amount of their Salaries, Wages, &c

One Agent	£600	0	0
Two Clerks of second class	420	0	0
One Clerk of third class	150	0	0
One Foreman of Coopers	160	0	0
Eleven Coopers	741	7	0
Two Masons and Labourers	149	6	1
One Bricklayer and Labourer	82	11	1
One Gate Warden	} 1,563	9	6
Four Cellar Labourers			
Thirtyseven Labourers			
Three Millers	164	6	6
<hr/>			
	£4,031	0	2

G. A. CHETWYND STAPYLTON,
F. EDGCOMBE.

The arrangements which are all upon the most extensive scale are disposed in such capital order that not the slightest difficulty ever arises in supplying any number of ships with provisions at a moment's notice. The first set of storehouses contain, rum, tea, wine, tobacco and cocoa—next follow the beer stores and brewery in which is prepared and kept the beer for the Naval Hospitals and the Marine Infirmaries—then comes the cooperage, a vast and most expensive establishment, the necessity of which may one day be suspended by the use of cubical iron tanks for all kinds of provisions—next we have the six meat stores, which contain beef, pork, suet, vinegar and salt, each of these vast rooms is capable of holding nine thousand tons of salt provisions—then come one large and three small provision stores, these contain flour, oatmeal, raisins, peas and soap—after these, stores for all kinds of cloathing both for the Seamen and Marines—Bibles, Prayer Books, Tracts and Naval Histories, Life of Nelson, &c ;—farther on is the bread store, capable of containing twenty thousand bags or two million pounds of biscuit.

Farther up in the grounds on a scite which was formerly the gardens and fish pond of the manor house of Weovil lies *the grand reservoir* into which nearly fifty tons of water can be pumped in one hour—from this place a pipe extends to the edge of the wharf, which fills either the large tank vessels containing each forty tons, or it may be carried away in boats ; the water is of the finest kind, is raised by the steam-engine, and the well from which it is supplied is three hundred and sixty feet in depth.

“ Under the large reservoirs, (June 18, 1779,) is a mass of hard rock, which prevents the formation of the well in that direction ;” and in digging the second, after obtaining a good supply, the work-

men, were not satisfied, but continued to dig, when suddenly opening a loose vein of sand the water disappeared, and they were obliged to close the opening of the bottom of the well with a wadding of tow and white lead, to retain the original supply. The fleets are supplied with water from Weovil.

THE BISCUIT BAKING ESTABLISHMENT.

The sole invention and carrying into practical operation of which is exclusively due to the talent of THOMAS T. GRANT, Esq. a gentleman of great ingenuity and scientific attainments in whom is combined a sound knowledge of principles, with a fertility of resource in their application, combined with steady habits of business and every day good sense.

Along the front of the wharfs which are very commodious stand arranged four granaries capable of containing six thousand quarters of corn—next are the mills by which this corn is ground, a very material point, inasmuch as all possibility of mixing improper ingredients with the flour is prevented and precisely the proper portion of the finer part of the bran is retained to make good biscuit meal. These flour mills are furnished with ten pair of stones (worked by a portion of the power of the same steam-engine which raises the water to the reservoir before described,) by which forty bushels of flour can be ground and dressed ready for baking in one hour.

The Baking Establishment consists of nine ovens, each thirteen feet by eleven and seventeen inches and a half in height. These are heated by furnaces attached to each, so constructed, that a blast of hot air and fire sweeps through them and gives the necessary heat in a very short space of time. The nine ovens bake a ton of bread an hour, or ten thousand biscuits.

PROCESS OF PREPARING BISCUIT FOR HER MAJESTY'S NAVY.

The bread is now prepared almost entirely by machinery, and the process is exceedingly beautiful; and though objected to on its first introduction, the machinery bread is now universally popular in the navy, formerly the sailors rarely took up their full allowance, now it seldom accurs that a single pound is left behind.

I. The first operation is mixing the meal and water together, this is done by introducing into a trough thirteen gallons and a half of water, and then allowing to entre it by a channel communicable with an upper room, two hundred and eighty pounds of buiscuit meal, the moment this is finished, a bell rings, and the trough is closed.

II. A singular apparatus of two sets of stirrers or knives is now made to revolve amongst the flower and water by machinery for a minute and a half, during which period the knives make twenty six revolutions, and the dough thus rudely mixed weighs three hundred and eighty eight pounds, and is sufficient for 1250 biscuits, or two suits each being 100 pounds in weight when properly dried.

III. The next process is to cast the lumps of dough under huge cylinders of iron, each weighing 14 cwt. called breaking rollers which are moved by the machinery horizontally along stout tables; the dough is thus formed into large rude pieces six feet long and several inches thick, and in these are passed repeatedly under the rollers, one part being folded or doubled on the other, so that the roller forcing these parts together obliges them to mix, till after a proper length of time, not the slightest trace of inequality can be discerned in any part of its substance and no traces of dry flour are discernable.

IV. The dough is now cut into small portions and being placed on large flat boards, and transported by the sole agency of the machinery in a most comical manner, from the centre to the extremity of the baking room, here it is placed under the sheet or blanket roller, and the kneading being quite complete, it only requires to be divided into biscuits.

V. The division of the dough is admirably performed, the cutting plate consists of a heavy net work of fifty two sharp edged hexagonal frames, each as large as a biscuit. This frame being moved slowly up and down, by the machinery, the workman watching his opportunity, slides under it the before mentioned blanket of dough, about the size of the leaf of a dining table, and in the next minute down comes the cutting frame indents the sheet or blanket, but does not actually cut it through, for enough of the substance is left uncut, to enable the workman at the mouth of the oven, to jerk the whole mass of fifty-two biscuits unbroken into the oven.

The dough is prevented sticking to the frame by most ingenious device; besides the acting portion of the hexagonal frame, there is a small flat open frame moveable up and down, and carrying above it a ball of iron, seven ounces in weight; when the great frame comes down upon the dough, each of these minor frames yields to the pressure, and all the little iron balls are seen to rise up; as soon as the cutting frame rises, the weight of the iron balls acting on the little flat frames above each biscuit, thrusts the whole blanket off.

The baking is continued for a quarter of an hour, and it is then withdrawn, broken into pieces of the proper shape and size, and placed for three days in the drying rooms heated to 85 or 95, which completes the process.

The making two million cwt. of biscuit, the average quantity issued for the last five years to the navy, costs by this machinery three thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds exclusive of the interest of the cost of the engines: made in the old way by hand it cost thirteen thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds.

A VISIT FROM A YOUTHFUL QUEEN.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria, having announced their intention of visiting Weovil, to see the process of baking biscuit for the navy; fixed on Friday, and the weather proving delightfully propitious, the sea-port, was all bustle and animation; visitors to witness the gay scene pouring in from all directions. At eleven o'clock a Guard of Honour marched into the Yard, and took post at the Stairs, the troops forming an avenue from thence to the house of the Superintendant. Shortly after eleven o'clock the *Emerald* yacht, bearing the Royal Standard, passed up the Harbour, the *Victory* and ships-of-war as they passed manned yards and cheered. Their Royal Highnesses accompanied by the Heads of Departments landed and inspected very minutely the whole of the extensive Establishment, with which they expressed themselves much gratified.

Since 1827, Woevil has been greatly improved by the new buildings, wharfs, entrance gates, offices, &c.

THE NAVAL MAGAZINE.

To the northward of Gosport, on the Harbour edge, is a magazine, called Priddy's Hard : a strong white building, with residences for several officers, and a small canal, communicating with the lake or branch of the Harbour.—March 7th, 1769 : “ For erecting a magazine at Priddy's Hard, in Portsmouth Harbour, 4000*l*.

Government also bought three pieces of furze land, containing twenty-five acres, three roods, sixteen perches : and two pieces of arable land, in extent fourteen acres, two roods and two perches, all which are on the north side of Forton lake, near Gosport, and in 1814 some other property belonging to the Fareham Charity. In 1833-34 one thousand three hundred and seventy pounds were expended in repairs, &c. This magazine is divided from Woevil by Forton Lake, which extends about two miles inland ; at the mouth is a small earthwork called Woevil Battery, and this commences the Fortifications of Gosport.

MILITARY HISTORY-- FORTS, BARRACKS, &c.

Leland's description.

“ The lande at the west pointe of Portesmoth Haven is sandy nesse and sone brekitt of ygoing plane to the open se. There is a round tourre with orrdinaunce at the west point of the mouth of Portesmoth Havan ; and a little way uppe to the haven is a greate creke, goying by west up into the lande a mile, called Ostrepole Lake. Scant a quarter of a mile above this is Gosport village.”

1720. Except the Fort at the mouth of the harbour, and a small outwork before the main street of the town, Gosport is only defended by a mud wall which surrounds it, and a trench, or dry ditch, of about ten feet depth and breadth. “ Franklin.”

Gosport had been fortified with walls of earth ; but it is of late years that the strength has been much increased, and the circumference enlarged. The works will not, however, bear comparison with those of Portsmouth, nor is their appearance so imposing, being destitute of trees. There are gates in the lines leading to Haslar and Forton, being archways, erected in 1800, but having nothing remarkable in their architecture ; and there is much vacant ground within the walls, which extend in a semicircle from Forton Lake beyond Woevil, to Haslar Lake on the other side.

The fort mentioned by Franklin was erected in the reign of

Charles the Second, and denominated Charles Fort, being a square tower and bastion, mounted with cannon ; It is now in ruins on the Beach, hidden from casual observance by a house called the Castle tavern. A second Fort, has been vulgarly ascribed to the reign of Stephen, but which was erected at the same time, and was of the same square character, and termed James's Fort, (though commonly called Borough Castle,) till the last year stood on a small island in the harbour : It has been partly demolished for the materials : It was used for many years as a place of interment for convicts ; and the island known by the name of "Rat Island." The principle defences of the coast are, however, the fortifications, called the Block-house Fort, at the mouth of the haven ; and Monkton Fort, near Stoke's Bay. The former is mounted with a range of ordnance of large calibre, and commands the entrance channel of the harbour.

BLOCK-HOUSE FORT

Is now a complete fortification in itself, having in the present century been greatly improved and enlarged. A salute from this covered bastion has a remarkably splendid effect. In the reign of Anne, the ditches round this fort communicated freely with the harbour, the walls were of little elevation, and in the centre stood the small dwelling-house still in existence. The approach, on the land side, is by a winding passage, with a wall on each side, and a drawbridge leading to a handsome stone gateway ; over which is inscribed in a neat tablet, 1708, three cannons, three balls, and the word Anno above. On a smaller tablet, rather higher than the former, appears, "Reformed MDCCLXIII." The whole surmounted by the double G. R. and crown. Over the archway, within the fort, on a small tablet, is inscribed "G. R. III."

Near the point of land called the Kicker, stands a second very strong line of battery, faced with Portland stone, commanding the roadstead of Spithead : built on the same principles as the Block-house Fort, at the suggestion of his Grace the Duke of Richmond, and called Fort Monkton, containing thirty-two pieces of heavy ordnance. In it are combined all the improvements in military architecture : and it is capacious enough to receive a large body of troops ; a strong redoubt extends also towards the west.

The military posts are principally at Haslar, behind the Naval Hospital ; and at Forton, where a few years since was erected a large Military Hospital, which has since been converted into barracks. It consists of four very lofty and extensive brick pavilions connected by arcades of great extent, with a parade ground of some

acres. On the opposite square is the entrance gate, with the apartments for officers. These are the most airy and elegant barracks in the neighbourhood. The wooden Barracks at Forton, used as a French prison during the war, have been sold and removed ; as have those formerly within the walls of Gosport, near Woevil. The Prison at Forton usually in the Napoleon War, contained four thousand French Prisoners of War : It was then a place of great resort for the purpose of purchasing toys, &c. manufactured by the prisoners.

HASLAR ROYAL NAVAL HOSPITAL.

On this site was formerly a large farm, a windmill, and a copse called Hazelwood ; in the reign of Henry viij there was here a circular tower ; a painting, said to represent the original Farm-house at Haslar, where now stands the Hospital ; is at Woevil.

At a short distance from the Blockhouse Fort, at the edge of an inlet, or creek, stands Haslar Hospital, erected by Mr. John Turner, at the recommendation of the Earl of Sandwich, between the years 1746 and 1762.

There is a large landing-place from the lake immediately in front of the gates of the hospital, to which a broad roadway leads across the open space of land ; on this space is erected a guard-house, where a guard is constantly on duty to prevent any tumult. A lofty brick-wall passes round the airing-ground, containing thirty-three acres, and a-mile in circumference ; and beyond this, extend some large portions of land, used as cemetery, and for other purposes of the hospital, being altogether forty-six acres. The jetty, drains, and main front cost 90,000*l.* sterling, and were finished before the wings were commenced.

This noble building is one of the largest brick edifices in the world. The mass of building below the surface of the earth (which is a dry gravelly soil) is equal in bulk to that which appears above. By the original plans, it was intended to have formed a square ; (a drawing of this may be found in one of the earlier numbers of the Gentleman's Magazine.) The entrance to the hospital is through a pair of handsome gates with side entrances, close to which are the Warder's lodge and the Lieutenant's office on either side, passing which, the whole front, four stories high, and five hundred and sixty-seven feet in extent, presents itself to view. In the centre of this is a lofty arched entrance, leading to three ranges of massive arches ; above is a fine sculpture in Portland stone (carved by Mr. Pearce.)

On the rich pediment behold
 The arms of England's monarchy,
 The various sculptures which unfold
 The pomp of naval dignity.
 First, *Navigation*, boldly shining,
 Her arms on blazoned Prow reclining,
 While bending low with gesture sweet—
 A wounded Sailor at her feet
 She bathes his wounds, with care attends
 His every want, each woe befriends
 High in mid-air the Northern star,
 Sure guide to ancient mariner;
 On the fore-ground the compass wheel,
 The mystic polar-pointing steel;
 And at the angle, low reclined
 The Guardians of the Western wind;

While stern of ship—rich pearly ore—
 And shells complete th' entablature.

Next *Commerce*, with unsparing hand,
 Sheds plenty o'er the smiling land;
 Gold, fruit, and never failing flowers
 From golden Cornu-copia showers—
 On Bales of Merchandize her seat,
 The world's vast treasure at her feet.

Near this a ship-wrecked Sailor stands,
 In mute despair on barren sands;
 To whose distress and prospects drear
 A friendly Bird doth minister;
 While Boreas bids the tempest roar,
 And shells and corals crown the shore.

Over the entrance was a spacious hall, one hundred feet long and fifty broad, formerly used as a chapel; it is now divided: one part, being the operating theatre, a second portion fitted up with vapour baths: above is the agent's store, and apartments belonging to the surgeons. To the right and left extend the wards, in a double range, of which there are one hundred and fourteen, including those in the roof, all uniform, sixty feet long and twenty feet broad, and filled with beds for the patients. These wards extend in a double line of building, forming three sides of a square, the wings or sides extending five hundred and fifty-three feet in length. These wings, at right angles with the principal front, are divided in the centre by two smaller buildings; beyond which the double ranges of wards again continue. The approaches are by staircases of most commodious dimensions, and, in the different angles, are small rooms termed cabins, for the nurses, surgeons, &c. Within the hospital extends a spacious piazza, twenty-four feet wide, and the whole length of the front and angles. Broad walks, and grass-plats, with groups of flowering shrubs, add much to the beauty of the internal area. It was first intended to erect the hospital in the shape of a perfect square, but this plan was afterwards abandoned, and a chapel erected in 1763, seventy-two feet in length and thirty-six in breadth connected to the wings by a very lofty iron railing, now forms the fourth side. The chapel is a neat edifice, with a small tower and clock; but, being covered with roman cement, spoils in some measure the symmetry of the general style of the hospital. "1763.—For completing the chapel at Haslar, 1000*l*." In the building dividing the left wing, the Commissioners of the Victualling department have lately erected two noble rooms; the lower one superbly fitted up in mahogany for a library, and the upper one finished in the style of Grecian design for a museum; the table and upright cases being of mahogany, and most classic forms.

A splendid marble bust from the Studio of Chantrey, was in 1835, placed in the Library of the Hospital: this beautiful work of art which

is almost a breathing representation of the original, is the result of a subscription of the medical officers of the navy, and is here placed to mark the high sense of gratitude felt towards a distinguished nobleman, through whose acumen and discernment the naval medical establishment acquired additional consequence and rank.

The following inscription is on the pedestal.

HANC
 QUAM SPECTAS IMAGINEM
 HENRICUS VICE COMITIS DE MELVILLE
 RERUM NAUTICARUM OFFICIO
 PRÆPOSITI
 MEDICI CHIRURGIQUE NAVALES
 OB EXIMIAM IN EORUM
 ORDINEM BENIGNITATEM
 GRATI
 P

Behind the chapel at the extremity of the area, are the houses of the Commissioner or Governor, and the different officers, erected in 1796-8 by Messrs Sheen. Behind the centre of the north wing is the dispensary, and on each side of the front area, the residences of the agent, steward, &c. the fumigating house, &c. where the clothes of patients are cleansed, and alphabetically arranged. Behind the south wing are the wards for the lunatics, with large enclosures for their proper exercise, &c.: there are also baths for patients with infectious diseases.

This Hospital will contain eighteen hundred patients, exclusive of nurses and attendants; a much larger number have, however, been occasionally accommodated during the war: and the most distinguished of the naval medical officers are employed. It is supplied with excellent water; and, all the drains &c. are washed with salt-water twice every day. A circular tower behind the officers' houses formerly was used for the supply of water; but it is now abandoned, not being good enough for use, except for washing. "1758, January 23, Towards carrying on the works at Haslar Hospital 10,000*l*.—1760, For Haslar Hospital, 10,000*l*.—and on yearly: 1762, for completing Haslar, 7130*l*.

On Friday, June 24th, 1814, Alexander, Emperor of Russia, the Duchess of Oldenburg, the Imperial suite, and a large train of nobility, visited Haslar, minutely inspecting every part, and testifying their entire satisfaction at the comfort, order, and general system, which prevailed. When introduced into the Dispensary, and shown the arrangement of the medicines, &c. the Emperor remarked, laughing, "It is all very pretty—very pretty: but not good for the stomach," laying his hand on his breast.

THE TOWN OF GOSPORT.

CIVIL HISTORY, &c.

Gosport is an ancient borough and market-town, consisting of three principal streets,—High-street, North and South streets, which intersect the place, and are crossed by others of lesser note. Towards the north is a large square, open to the sea, called Cold Harbour. Within the fortifications are several vacant fields and closes.

The Bishop of Winchester claims jurisdiction over the town, borough, and parish of Gosport, over the sea-shore, between high and low water mark, and over so much of the sea as a man can ride into on a white horse, at the time of low-water mark, and overreach with a lance. “The Bishop holds Alwarestoke (Alverstoke.) It was always abbey land. In the time of Edward the Confessor it was assessed at six pounds. A knight held half a hide. Sawinus held it, but was not allowed to remove anywhere; It is worth twenty-five shillings.”

With the concurrence of the Bishop, in the 51st year of George the Third, a new market was erected by shares on the beach; it is a square building of white brick, with arched windows, and bonding vaults below; and in the upper story, a large room called the Court-room, in which the Bishop of Winchester holds his manorial court. The market, instead of being held in, is held around. On a flag-staff above this building, the flags by which the fares of the ferry are regulated are hoisted. The original market-place, was in the centre of the High-street, a very ruinous structure of wood; above were two small rooms (in which the lord of the manor held his courts leet and baronial,) and an octagonal tower with a clock. In a niche at the end was a gilded statue of lead, of William the Third in the Roman costume, by Sir R. Chenée. The Bridewell is near North Cross Street.

There are two fairs at Gosport, of trifling extent, viz. on May 4, and October 10. The act of parliament passed for erecting the new market, in 1811, recognized the ancient fairs, which were granted by the then lord of the manor, Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, in 1158, in consideration of kindness shown to his brother, King Stephen, who, in a voyage from Normandy, landed here after a storm: The Bishop called the village God's Port, bestowed on it the fairs above mentioned, and three market-days in each week. Until the grant was discovered amongst the archives of the See of Winchester,

it was supposed the village derived its name from the great quantity of goss, or gorze (provincial—furze) growing near it.

HASLAR BRIDGE.

The usual passage to the Hospital is from Gosport, across Haslar-lake (a branch of the harbour which extends inland in two branches as far as the village of Stoke) over this Lake there was formerly a long wooden bridge, called Forbe's Bridge, but becoming dangerous it was removed on May 16th, 1801, and for many years the passage was effected by small ferry boats; but several accidents having happened and the loss of life, in 1834 a company was formed, an act of Parliament obtained, and a new bridge from a design of Mr. Adams was built by Messrs Mackintosh. This is a great public convenience, the road leading to Anglesey, Stoke, and Stokes-bay round the outer wall of the Hospital precinct.

MISCELLANIES.

October, Thursday 1823. A beaked whale was discovered to have found its way into Haslar-lake, where on the ebb of the tide, it was left in a hole excavated for laying up the Rev. C. North's yacht, and was shortly afterwards discovered by some of the villagers of Alverstoke, who killed it and secured the carcase. It was twenty-four feet in length, and upwards of twelve feet in circumference, and required five horses to draw it on shore.

Sunday, March 8, 1803. A hot press, and five hundred able seamen obtained under the following circumstances. Captain Bowen, at ten o'clock at night, assembled a party of marines with as much noise and parade as possible, to march to quell a pretended riot at Haslar. As the news spread, hundreds of people ran to see the expected affray; and Captain Bowen no sooner saw his object was obtained, than he placed a party of marines at the end of Haslar bridge, and took every man that answered his purpose.

Behind the hospital, and near the village of Stoke, is a triangular pillar of rough stone, formerly used as a landmark, in connexion with a second, which stood in the situation of Monkton Fort. They were termed the *Kickergill* and *Gillkicker landmarks*.

The following inscription is (or was) on the Gillkicker. "This sea mark was erected by Robert Earl of Warwick, Admiral of the seas—Captain Richard Blith Sen. his captain in the Prince Royal, and W. Cooke, master of attendant his master; below was placed a coat of arms.

Without the Fortifications, the country assumes a most picturesque and beautiful appearance. The villages of Forton, on the London road; Bury, with its lofty trees; Stoke, and its ancient church,

and the new villas of Anglesea Ville, on the edge of Stoke Common, present objects of high interest ; and the land being intersected by lakes in all directions, presents a much more diversified appearance than on the Portsea side :

“The land on which Gosport was built was the waste of the manor in which the freeholders who are tenants of the manor have all a common right, and are as much interested as the lord of the soil, and the one cannot alienate, sell or lease without the consent of the other.”

There were a few years ago, trials in the Exchequer, and appeals to the Lords, *viz. Parmeter v. the Attorney-General, &c.* The merchants of Gosport had erections upon what are called the Mud Lands of the Harbour, held under leases ; and the Lord Chancellor intimated, that in whatever instance such erections could be proved a nuisance, or injury to the harbour, they must be removed at the individuals' expense ; but where possession could be shown for sixty years, and the premises proved not to be a nuisance, he might, in such case, consider the grant, or lease, valid ; but if a nuisance, then the erections must be removed at the public's expense. From a grant made by Charles I. the inhabitants of Gosport had certain privileges in all mud lands between high and low water, on the whole coast of Hampshire, excepting only the liberties of the Corporate body of Portsmouth. Upon the validity of this grant, Messrs. Parmeter built a dock, which projected into the harbour ? and wharfs, had been erected by other merchants. These buildings had been deemed encroachments, and an injury to the navigation, by decreasing the space to be filled with the tide. Mr. Parmeter's case was ten years under judicial proceeding. Mr. Page of Gosport was deprived of his wharf.

The Attorney-General v. William Carver and Brownlow, Bishop of Winchester, to try whether certain premises held by Carver, under the Bishop, on the western side of Portsmouth harbour, were not a public nuisance, by obstructing the tide, whereby sand banks were formed, and the harbour injured. The trial took place before the Barons of the Exchequer. The Chief Baron, in the entire absence of any evidence, other than that of opinion, to prove damage accruing to the harbour from Carver's wharf, advised the plaintiff to accept a nonsuit.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF GOSPORT.

The Parish Church of Gosport is situated at Alverstoke or Stoke, two miles from the town, and is a very ancient structure in the Saxon style. It contains many curious monuments, and above the communion-table is an altar-piece representing the Lords's Supper. The cemetery is very large, and a second piece of land has been lately consecrated to a like purpose. The church has been of late years nearly rebuilt.

The Rectory house is near the church, and was for a short period the residence of the Princess Donna Francisca, Consort of Don Carlos.

DEATH OF DONNA FRANCISCA.

Occurred at 35 minutes past eleven on Thursday morning last, at the Rectory, Alverstoke. The disease manifested itself, in a bilious attack, attended with inflammation, so acute was the inflammatory action, that every effort to relieve proved abortive, and to the poignant grief of all around her, terminated fatally. The Princess was in the 35th year of her age, was married to the Infante Don

Carlos de Bourbon, on the 29th of September, 1816, and left three sons, who were all with her at the time of her death, as well as her sister, the Princess de Beira.

On the morning of the death, the Catholic soldiers in the Garrison of Gosport, attended at the Catholic Chapel, and celebrated Mass.

King William, caused a letter of condolence to be written to the Princess Beira, that every facility might be afforded in transmitting the painful intelligence to Don Carlos; a Deputation of the gentry in the neighbourhood, waited on the Princess of Beira, with an Address of Condolence from the Inhabitants of Gosport and vicinity. They were most graciously received by her Royal Highness, who was much effected by this mark of attention. The Duke of Sussex sent also, to express his regret, and that of the other Members of the Royal Family of England, at the lamented event. The Bishop of Leon, never quitted the bedside of his Royal Mistress until she ceased to breathe. He administered to her the sacraments of the Catholic Church, and penned her last wishes in the form of a will. The Queen was perfectly resigned, and met her end with a calmness and serenity which astonished those who were weeping around her. She assembled her household, took leave of each, and to all left some token of remembrance.

The body lay in state for several days in the principal room of the Rectory. The coffin rested upon a platform with three steps, under a handsome crimson canopy, and surrounded by eighteen large candlesticks, with tapers constantly kept burning, besides several branches. The royal arms of Spain and Portugal at the head of the coffin. There were four Spanish gardes de corps and a Priest, constantly in attendance. Serjeants of the 86th Regt. decorated with the arms of England, were in attendance, to preserve order in the house, while the remains of the late Queen were lying in state, open to public inspection. Thousands of persons of all ranks were freely admitted, and a drawing of the solemn scene was made by Mr. Ubsdell of Portsmouth.

THE CHURCH OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY.

In the year 1696, Henry Player and other gentlemen of the parish and borough of Gosport built by subscription the original church, upon a waste piece of land called Gosport common, near the Haslar gateway. The church was seventy five feet long and fifty five feet broad, and it was consecrated and dedicated by Peter, Bishop of Winchester on the 27th of September with the understanding that the Curate was to be paid twenty pounds per annum: in the same year the freeholders and inhabitants of the manor, parish, and borough surrendered to the Lords Court a piece of land surrounding the church for a cemetery, this being part of the waste of the manor. In 1701. The Bishop granted license to William Ogilvie for the curacy of the church. In 1730, Richard Norton of Southwick house gave 200 pounds to repair and beautify the fabric, and in June, 1732, Colonel R. Norton gave one thousand pounds towards the maintainance of the Curate, and 296 pounds were collected in the parish for the same purpose in 1734, and 289 pounds were spent in repairing the church, which was lengthened considerably.

In 1743. Mr. Whitehead left five hundred pounds, a Mr. Humphrey forty pounds, a subscription of two hundred and six pounds, and Queen Anne's bounty, of one hundred and forty four pounds were added together, and an estate called Spitfield farm, with 94 acres of land was purchased for 940*l.* as an endowment, and thus

the curacy became a benefice. In 1748, the trees were planted round the cemetery, and twenty-five years after this, fourteen hundred pounds were expended in repairs of the church: in 1801, eight hundred and sixty pounds were raised by subscription for a parsonage house, and in 1828, the church was nearly rebuilt by subscription, and 250*l.* from the National Society, from designs of Mr. Owen; a tower was added, and three hundred free seats for the poor.

The old church was built of brick, with arched windows, and a low roof, formed of ragstone, in the Dutch style; above the entrance was a cupola. The interior consists of three aisles, separated by lofty pillars and arches, and the ceiling is arched. The communion-table is in a circular recess, with a painted ceiling and gilded cornice.

“In the gallery above the entrance is a very fine organ, built under the immediate inspection of Handel, for his own private use. It was purchased by the Duke of Chandos, and was placed in the chapel of ‘Timon’s Villa,’ at Cannons; and after having become the property of a broker, was purchased for the church at Gosport for a very trifling sum.” While the organ was at Cannons, Handel rehearsed on it the anthems, and Pepusch the morning and evening services, which by command of the Duke, they composed for the use of the chapel on holy-days. The late Mr. B. West was organist of the church, for fifty-three years.

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, FORTON.

A Subscription of eight hundred pounds having been raised, the Commissioners for building Churches supplied the remainder.

The site was purchased from Mr. Wavell, and the contract for building the church was taken by Mr. Bramble at a cost of three thousand seven hundred and sixty pounds. The first stone was laid on August the twelfth, 1829, by the Rev. Edward Barnard, M.A. the Rector of Alverstoke, and Patron. The usual coins, and the following inscription on brass being deposited. “*Hujus templi DEO sacra-
ti Britaniarum senatus munificentia, et donis privatis œdificandis pre-
mium posuit lapidem Edwardus Barnard, parchiœ Alverstoke Rec-
tor die August 12 anno Regis Georgii IV—X—Salutis humanæ
MDCCCXXIX—T. E. Owen Architect:*”

The Church was consecrated by Richard Sumner, Bishop of Winchester, on April the 6th, 1831, and the Reverend Audrey Veck, M.A. of Magdalen Hall Oxon, was appointed the Incumbent. The communion plate, consisting of a chalice, cup, patena, and plate of

embossed silver from an antique pattern, found at Athens in the third century was presented to the church by Mrs. and the Misses Veck, the mother and sisters of the first incumbent. Messrs. Charles Patten, and William Parmeter were the first chapel-wardens.

The organ was the private property of Handel; there is a small figure of the musician on the summit, a copy of the one in Westminster Abbey.

The church is in length ninety-two feet, and in breadth forty-seven feet; from the entrance to the gothic screen is eighty-four feet, but on the exterior the length is one hundred feet, the tower is eighty-four feet high; there are eleven hundred and sixty sittings, of which seven hundred are free.

Attached to the church is a new school-room, built in 1832, the first stone being laid by the Rev, Mr. Veck on May the 8th. This school is sixty feet long, twenty feet broad and twenty feet high. The cost of this building was four hundred pounds, towards which the National Society granted ninety, the Winchester committee twenty pounds, and the remainder was raised by subscription, and the proceeds of several concerts of music. 200 children are educated in this school, and 12 choristers receive musical instruction for the chapel, and at no other place in the neighbourhood is the musical portion of the liturgy performed so well as in this church.

The district of St John, for which this is the place of worship, contains according to the census of 1831,—2285 persons.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The original Church was very small and stood where is now Blake's brewery; the present one was erected in 1776, by the Right Rev. Dr. Talbot, a younger brother of the ancient and noble family of the Talbots, Earls of Shrewsbury. This is small—it is in a Court in High-street, but is remarkable as the (temporary) Burial-place of the Queen of Spain, for whose interment it was enlarged. There is a probability that this church will be entirely rebuilt, on a large scale: in which case the houses in the high street which belong to the church, will be removed.

FUNERAL PROCESSION OF THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.

The procession began to move from the Rectory about eleven, which was announced by minute guns from the Portsmouth garrison. His Majesty's Ship *Victory*, and the Netherlands line-of-battle-ship *De Zeuw*, in succession, until the close of the funeral.

The Royal Standard of Spain was hoisted half-mast in the Garrison, and on board of every ship; all the British colours were also hoisted half-mast.

PROGRAMME OF THE FUNERAL PROCESSION.

Two Beadles, staffs covered with crape.

Mr. Crook, the Undertaker, supported by Pages in full mourning costume,
Four Mutes,

The Lid of Feathers supported by four Pages, and Six Mutes on Horseback, in
Cloaks and Hatbands.

Mourning Carriage and Four, containing the Clergymen, supported by walking Pages.

Two Mourning Carriages and Four, containing Doctors Lara, Kid, and Llorit, supported by walking Pages.—The second containing the Major Domo of the household, the Chief of the Palace, the principal Officer of the Garde-de-Corps, and the Groom in waiting.

A Colour Guard of Honour from the Royal Marines, commanded by Capt. Swale, followed by the Royal Marine Band:

During the procession this fine Band performed the solemn March composed for the Funeral of George the Fourth.

Jewelled Diadem on a crimson velvet Cushion, borne by Major-General Martinez, uncovered, on a State Horse, enveloped in Black housings and supported by Brigadier-Gen. Don Juan de Amarillas and Brigadier-General Gutierrez, followed by Eight Grooms in black velvet caps.

THE BODY

In a Hearse, drawn by eight horses, covered with black housings, bearing the initials of the deceased, surmounted with the Spanish Crown, each horse led by a Groom; the Hearse covered with plumes and streamers, bearing heraldic emblems; six Pages, with truncheons, walked on each side of the Hearse.

THE CHIEF MOURNERS—His Excellency the Bishop of Leon, the Right Hon. Lord Stuart de Rothsay, and his Excellency the Baron de Capelle, in a carriage, drawn by six horses in full housings; followed by eight mourning coaches, with four horses each, containing Magistrates of the County, and the Spanish Officers who belonged to the Royal Household or Body Guard. All these coaches were attended by Pages, in mourning, with their staves covered with black silk. The procession, was received at the Chapel by a Guard of Honour from the 86th regiment.

The inner coffin was of mahogany, polished, and lined with white satin, satin mattress, pillow and sheet; this was enclosed in lead, with a name plate. The state coffin was of Hispaniola mahogany, covered with crimson Genoa velvet, splendidly ornamented with rows of silver gilt nails, silver gilt furniture, and handles with sun rays, ornamented with a Spanish crown. The lid bore the Royal arms of Spain and Portugal massively chased and gilt, with the crown of Spain supported by scrolls; the plate, with the inscription gilt in pure gold, beneath which the crucifix was placed. It was lined with white satin, and secured with three patent locks, the keys of which were handed over to the family.

The splendor of the pageant, aided by the fineness of the day, drew such a crowd of persons together, as Gosport has seldom or never witnessed; the road, ramparts, houses, and streets were thronged with spectators.

As the procession passed through Gosport the shops were shut and the windows thronged with spectators, in mourning. Some of the balconies were also hung in black. The hearse reached the chapel at twelve. The body was placed on a platform raised in the centre of the building with burning tapers around; the coffin covered with a fine Holland sheet, and a black velvet pall, ornamented with ten escutcheons. After the first part of the ceremony was over, a funeral oration was pronounced by the Rev. John Clark and the body was then deposited in a vault, at the foot of the altar: where repose the remains of this daughter of Braganza.

Notwithstanding the immense concourse lining each side of the road, the procession moved on in perfect order, and without the smallest interruption, every person in solemn silence, numbers in tears, testifying the deepest regret at the untimely loss of an illustrious foreigner.

The Princess de Beria, to testify her sense of the attention of the physicians,

sent to Dr Kidd, a brilliant ring, worn by the deceased, and to Dr. Lara, a note for 20*l*.

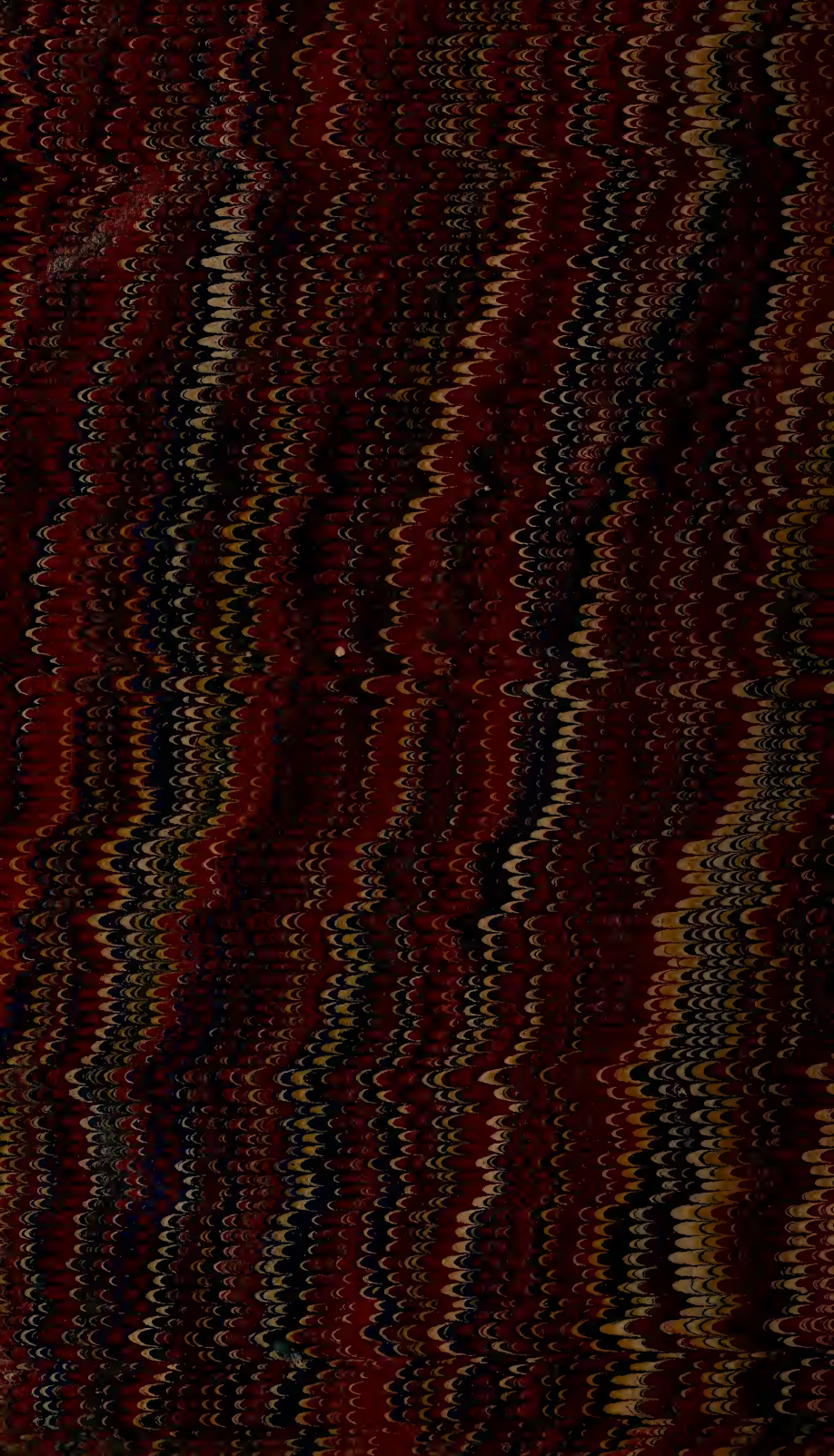
Dr. Quarrier, in his report to the Duke of Wellington, Lord Lieutenant of the County, and to Lord Duncannon, Secretary of State for the Home Department, observed—"The Magistrates feel highly indebted to the Special Constables for the good order maintained throughout the Funeral of the Donna Francisca d' Assis de Bourbon, and particularly to Major Mac Pherson, of the 99th Regiment, for the judicious arrangement of the troops, and for the manner in which the Major aided the Civil authorities. Though there were not less than 60,000 persons assembled in the line of the procession, not the slightest accident or disturbance occurred. The orderly conduct of the Officers and soldiers of the 86th and 99th Regiments, while pressed upon by the populace in their desire to view the remains of the late Infanta, while laying in State, at the Rectory of Alverstoke deserves praise."

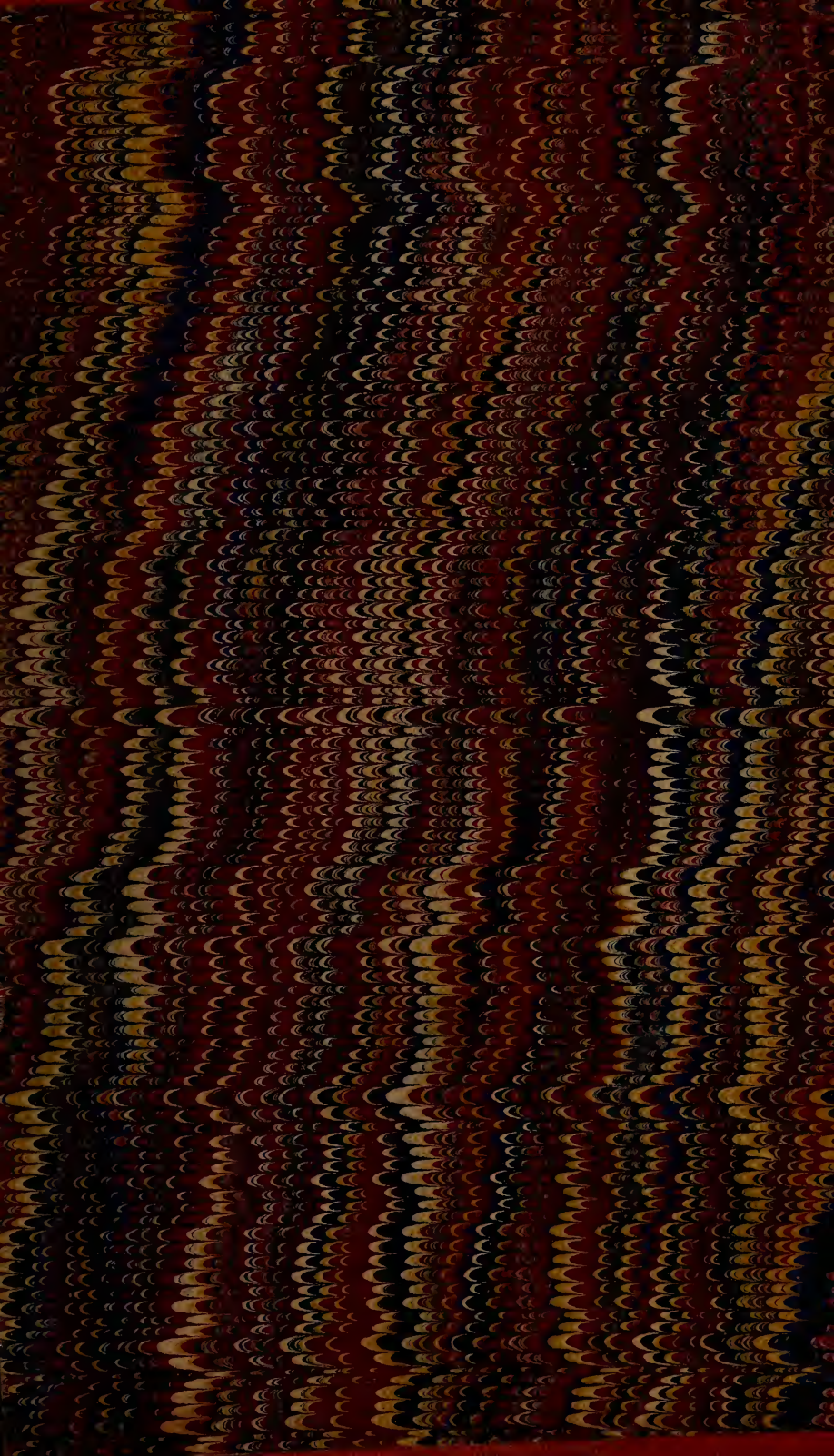
The Independent Chapel at Gosport is a spacious brick edifice, in the High-street, capable of seating twelve hundred persons. The first minister was the Rev. Walter Marshall, fellow of the New College, Oxon. vicar of Hursley, from which he was ejected by the act of uniformity, he continued so till 1690. The next was John Clifford, who officiated for thirty years, and who purchased to the use of the chapel a handsome house at the upper end of the High-street. His successor was John Harrison. After twelve years Thomas Williams became pastor, in whose room James Watson was chosen minister. This gentleman continued however, only six years; for entering on the study of the law, he was a barrister, became M.P. was knighted, and appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Bengal, where he died, in 1777. 1777, Sir James Watson was succeeded in the ministry by David Bogue, a man of great erudition and piety. His work on the divine authority of the New Testament has been translated into many of the Continental languages. The Doctor was also author of "Sermons," "Reasons for seeking a repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts;" "the History of Dissenters." He was one of the founders of the London Missionary Society. He died in October 1825; and a public funeral, testified the respect of his congregation.

The Presbyterian Chapel of Gosport was opened July 4th, 1827;

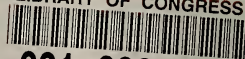
It stands on the site of the old theatre, which was purchased and converted to its present use, and the walls of which still form the south and west sides. It will seat eight hundred persons.

The Methodist Chapel is in the High-street.





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